



## ARTS SHOWCASE:

The staff of the 'Winged Lion' prepare for another award-winning year...page 7

# THE CHART

MISSOURI SOUTHERN STATE COLLEGE, JOPLIN, MO 64801-1595  
VOLUME No. 58, Issue No. 15

## SECOND FRONT:

Southern's foreign student body does 'Love, international style'....page 3



## COMMENCEMENT

# December graduates will walk in wintertime

## College graduates around 200 each fall

By NICK PARKER  
MANAGING EDITOR

Conceding to student requests, Missouri Southern has announced that students completing degree requirements in December 1998 can graduate with the same fanfare as May graduates.

In the past, December graduates had to return to the College in May if they wanted to participate in the formal commencement ceremony. A reception in the Billingsly Student Center had been held for December graduates since 1994.

According to Nadine Schmidt, assistant to the vice president for academic affairs, December graduates and their families have been voicing a desire for a winter ceremony for several years.

"Basically, each year there were students and their families speaking to Dr. (College President Julio) Leon about having a December ceremony," she said. "The decision basically came from those requests. Another factor in the decision was that the number of December graduates is increasing. This past semester there were more requests, and as requests build it shows more of a need."

Southern graduated 196 students in December 1997, 201 in December

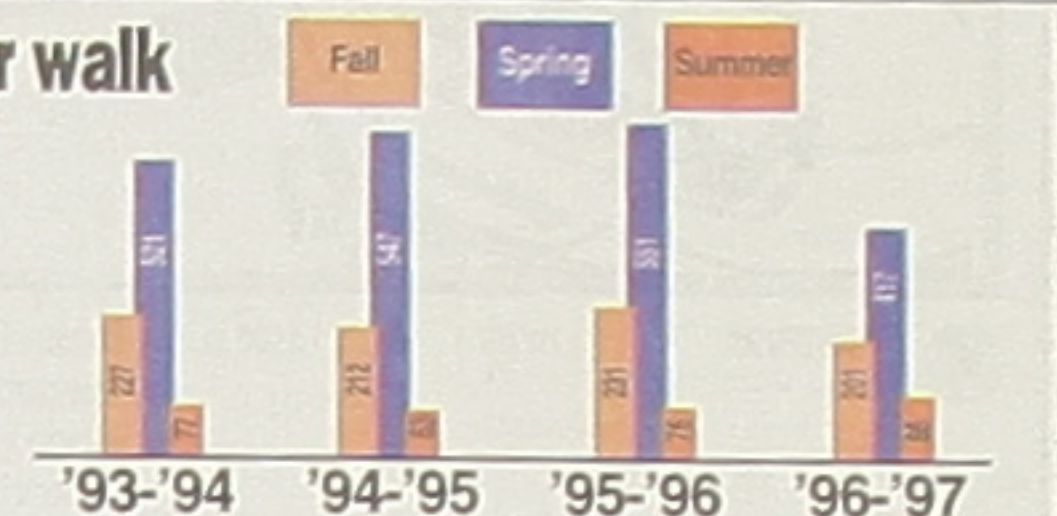
1996, and 231 in December 1995.

The cost of an additional ceremony as well as the relatively low number of December graduates served as obstacles to a separate ceremony in the past. Southern has had a summer graduation in the past, but discontinued it due to financial reasons.

Southern's first winter commencement is currently slated for Dec. 19, 1998.

## Winter walk

More than 200 students graduate after the fall semester every year.



Number of graduates for the last four years in each flight  
J.L. GRIFFIN/The Chart

TURN TO GRADUATION, PAGE 2

## STUDENT LIFE BEAT



Spending time with her pet Ball Python Big Jake instead of her cat, Brandi Ensor, senior elementary education major, said Jake feels "like a nice purse."

## More than PUPPY love

By AILEEN GRONWOLD  
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Different strokes for different folks, they say, and nowhere is it more true than in the choice of a pet.

Brandi Ensor, senior elementary education major, owns a pet who doesn't bark at strangers, chase a Frisbee, or smother her in wet kisses, but he has a special place in her heart.

Ensor's attachment to Big Jake stems from intrigue more than cuddly affection. Big Jake is a 6-foot Ball Python.

"We've had him about a year and a half," she said. "When my husband said he wanted a snake, I thought he was nuts."

Ensor had a typical aversion to snakes until she handled one.

"It felt like a really nice purse," she said. "And one nice thing about snakes is that they are cheap to feed."

One gourmet mouse satisfies Jake's appetite for a month or longer, Ensor said.

"It's really interesting to watch him eat the mouse," she said. "It's like *National Geographic* up close."

One member of the family doesn't appreciate the snake, however, and Ensor believes the feeling is mutual.

## Student LifeBeat



These special feature stories are designed specifically for you—the student. If you have story suggestions please call 625-9311.

TURN TO PETS, PAGE 10

## ENROLLMENT SERVICES

# Skaggs hopes to lure students with sweets

## Recruitment effort shifts with 'Southern Preview'

By TAMMY SPICER  
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

Dessert will be one of the draws to a series of programs sponsored by the Missouri Southern admissions office.

"We are planning four receptions in March aimed at prospective Missouri Southern students and their parents," said Derek Skaggs, director of enrollment services. "We are calling it 'Southern Preview.'"

The programs, planned for St. Louis, Tulsa, Kansas City, and Springfield, are designed to be a recruitment tool for high school seniors and juniors who have expressed interest in Southern. There are a wide array of means to express interest, including sending test score information, phone calls, reply cards, and a variety of others, Skaggs explained.

The receptions are scheduled for some of the nicer hotels in the cities, such as the Downtown Doubletree in Tulsa. There is a reason that the nicer hotels were chosen for these programs, Skaggs said.

"One of the things we are trying to do is create an image of quality," Skaggs said. "In all of our recruitment strategies we want to project the high quality that is consistent with the kind of education offered here at Missouri Southern."

The dessert receptions will consist of a

socializing period before and after the scheduled program. The organized portion will begin with a student speaker, who will give the prospects a taste of Southern life; a faculty speaker, who will explain the instructor-student relationships at the College; and a "keynote" speech by College President Julio Leon.

"The student speakers are chosen through a nomination process in the different departments," Skaggs explained. "They are usually student leaders on campus."

Depending on the size of the reception, there will also be one or two Southern students from the program area who will serve as hosts or hostesses.

In the fall, a similar reception was held in northwest Arkansas. The student speaker at the function was Grant Miller, senior middle school education major and last year's Student Senate president.

"I felt really good being selected for my accomplishments," Miller said. "The program was very innovative. I felt it offered a comfortable atmosphere to the students and their parents."

Prospective students and their parents will not be the only guests at "Southern Preview." Southern alumni are also a target group for the receptions.

The northwest Arkansas reception was

TURN TO ENROLLMENT, PAGE 10

## COUNSELING CENTER

# Lending a helping hand

## Counselors advise on many different life issues

By J.L. GRIFFIN  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

For Dr. Linda Caldwell, every day brings something new. As director of Missouri Southern's counseling center, she performs the duties many colleges have two or three people do.

In her day she can see students wondering about enrolling in a class to students who might want to end it all.

In her three years at Southern, Caldwell has advised students about the dangers of slacking off in class to the dangers of drug and alcohol abuse.

"I think freshmen come in with more issues because they are learning to cope," she said. "There's a lot that can happen the freshman year."

Besides Caldwell, the staff at the counseling center also handles much of the workload, the majority of which is advising all the undecided majors.

But there are times when the staff has

to put on a different counselor's hat.

"A lot of time a person will come in and they're not sure what they want to do with their life and all these issues come out," Caldwell said.

She said many of the personal problems students have stem from either leaving home or breaking up with a boyfriend or girlfriend. However, in the counseling center, on the first floor of Hearnes Hall, Caldwell and the other counselors have pretty much heard it all.

"There are times that I still worry," said Susan Craig, counselor.

The worry comes from knowing what she says could shape the course of another person's life forever.

"The more heavy-duty things get sent to me," Caldwell said. "I'd be the one responsible anyway."

Caldwell admits even the heavy duty can get too heavy.

That's when she'll recommend therapy



Counseling center director Linda Caldwell (right) chats with David Hammett, sophomore criminal justice major. The office is on the first floor of Hearnes Hall.

outside the counseling center.

Because the counseling center doesn't do much advertising, students are often referred to Caldwell by the College physician, nurse, or Doug Carnahan, dean of students.

"If it's an alcohol- or drug-related thing, I think of Linda," Carnahan said. "Finding help is the No. 1 priority."

Because he deals with all the student disciplinary matters on campus, Carnahan said he never hesitates about sending students to seek therapy.

"Usually if it's a serious enough situation, I'll recommend they see a psychiatrist or psychologist," he said.

TURN TO COUNSELING, PAGE 11

## FINANCIAL AID

# Electronic filing slowing process for aid recipients

By JEFF WELLS  
STAFF WRITER

Meant to be a convenience, filing federal financial aid forms electronically has been a frustrating experience for some Missouri Southern students.

According to Jim Gilbert, director of student financial aid, the federal Department of Education has not issued certification of the newest versions of two popular Web browsers for filing applications, leading to complications in the process.

Students will not be able to submit forms using Netscape Navigator 4.04 until a new round of testing is complete. Certification has also not come for Microsoft's Internet Explorer 4.01, but it can be used to file forms.

TURN TO MONEY, PAGE 10

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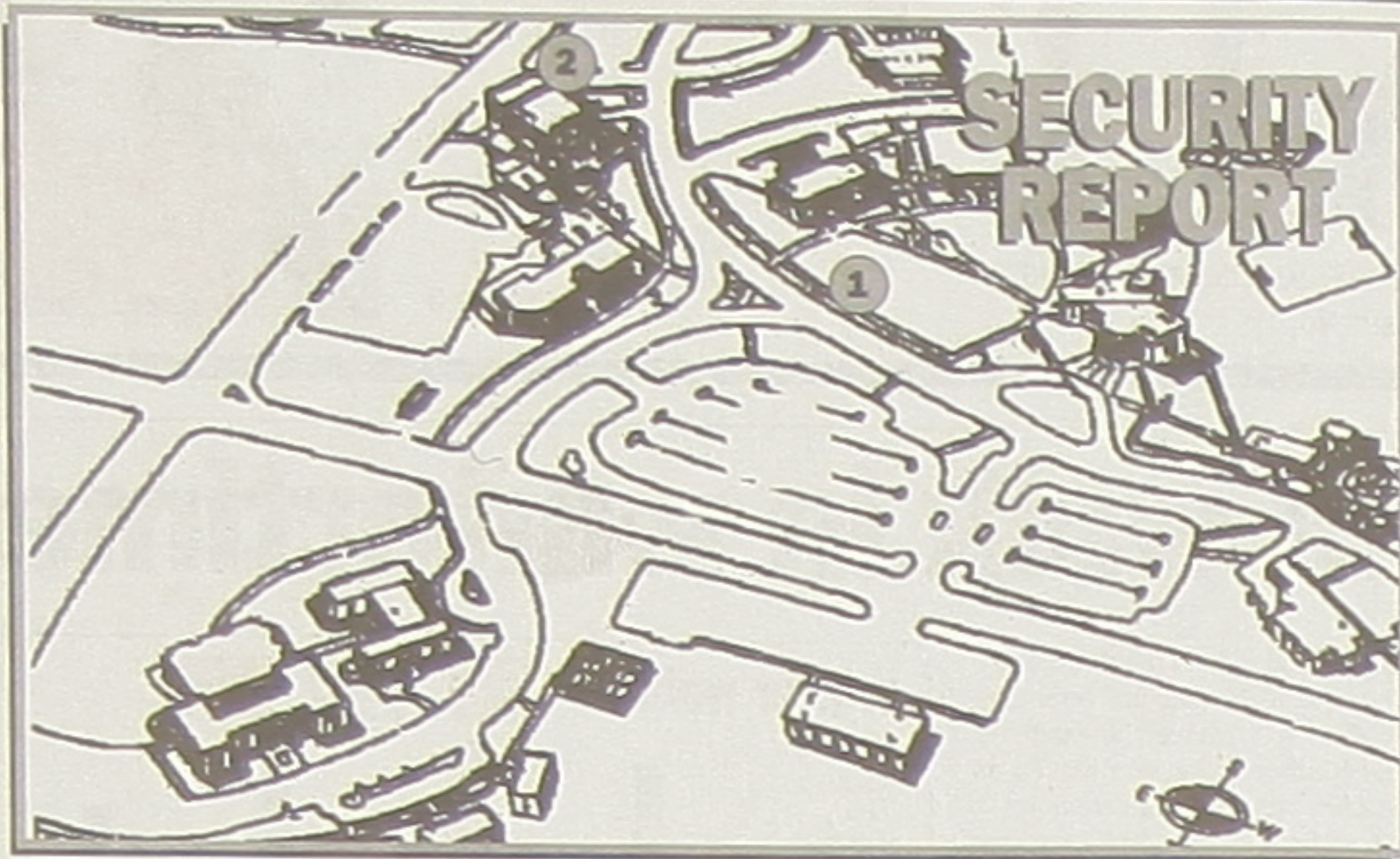
## What's Inside



## SPORTS:

Lady Lion standout Megan Mickey has her hands full on the court leading the team and off the court as the mother of a four-year-old....page 12





- 1** 02/05/98 Lot #9 1:10 p.m. Steven Taylor was parked in yellow zone of lot #9 with his vehicle facing south. Timothy Kahre was backing up and struck Taylor's vehicle in the left rear area. Kahre's vehicle sustained no damage. Taylor's vehicle received damage to the left rear bumper, panel, and lift gate area.
- 2** 02/10/98 Taylor Hall 5:30 p.m. Susan Simmons reported to security that a computer Zip drive was stolen from a computer in Taylor Hall Room 103. The theft occurred sometime between 5 p.m. Monday and 1 p.m. Tuesday. The Zip drive is valued at approximately \$200. There are currently no suspects in the crime.

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**Switzerland**  
Hurliman's

### KINESIOLOGY DEPARTMENT

## Grant creates health lab

By **MICHAEL RASKA**  
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Public school teachers from the four-state area and student teachers at Missouri Southern soon will be able to utilize new health teaching materials for themselves and their students.

The kinesiology department at Southern received a \$6,000 grant from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education that will help build a new health resource lab.

"I was asked by Rhonda Ridinger, professor of health and physical education at Southwest Missouri State University, to serve on the Goals 2000 committee," said Dr. Dirk Nelson, head of the kinesiology department at Southern.

"The ultimate goal of the Goals 2000 committee is to help improve teacher preparation. There are 25 members of the committee divided into groups who focus on improving different aspects of teaching," he said.

The southwest region of Missouri

was granted \$450,000 over a three-year period to improve the preparation of health and physical education teachers in this area, Nelson said.

"I was put in charge of a group to improve community outreach and curriculum integration," he said. "We came to the conclusion that one of the ways to do that is to provide teaching materials for health teachers in the four-state area. We decided to create a new health resource lab at Missouri Southern."

Currently the plans are that the new health resource lab should be finished by this summer. The planned health resource lab will include CD-ROMS, videotapes, heart rate monitors, and other health-related needs that previously could be seen only once a year at the Health Resource Fair, according to Nelson.

"Health Resource Fair is set up to be held every fall," explained Sheri Beeler, instructor of kinesiology. "It's for the four-state area teachers to come and view health education materials and resources for teachers."

"Health education got a boost from

the state in the last few years for accountability and accreditation tests," Beeler explained.

"So we are providing an opportunity for the teachers to see mostly free and low-cost materials that we can get simply by contacting the company that is providing the material and make those resources available to teachers."

The purpose of the grant from the state is to create a center on campus that will be most accessible to not only pre-service teachers, but also to area teachers to view on a year-round basis, according to Beeler.

Teachers will be able to check materials out for class use for the whole year instead of one-day viewing similar to what was available in the past at the Health Resource Fair.

"I hope it will get to the point that area people looking for any health resources will come to us," Nelson said.

"If we can provide resources to the teachers, they will see what our department can do for them," he said. □

## GRADUATION: College plans ceremony for winter grads

From Page 1

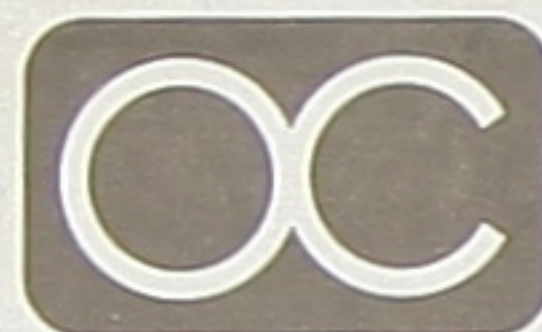
Dr. Larry Martin, dean of the school of arts and sciences, said he understood why many students wanted to have a ceremony in December.

"The point [of the ceremony] is to give all the graduates a feeling that they've accomplished something," he said.

Schmidt said she also expected the additional ceremony to make more seats available for the audience.

"It should allow every student grad-

uating to have more people come and see them graduate," Schmidt said. "There are 200 or so graduates in December, and so that will make more tickets available in the winter and also make more available in the spring. I always enjoy commencement; I think it will be neat." □



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LOCAL CHARITY

# Club helps start 'Journey of the Heart'

By BRIN CAVAN  
STAFF WRITER

In Joplin, a "Journey of the Heart" has begun — a Ronald McDonald House is under construction at 34th and Jackson. The Missouri Southern Kinesiology Club is sponsoring a fund-raiser to help build the eight-bedroom, 10,054-square-foot structure and is asking all the students, departments, organizations, and clubs of the College to donate. The money will be used to fund the project by purchasing bricks (\$100 each), which will form the walkway to the Ronald McDonald House.

Steve Brown, public relations officer for the K Club, wants a campus-wide awareness of this fund-raiser, and hopes to see

organizations with tables to collect donations in all the buildings at Southern.

"My goal is to try and get \$2,000 from the student body," he said. "If half of them gave only \$1, we could reach that goal."

Though the idea for the fund-raiser came from Kinesiology Club members, they have a strong endorsement from the head of the department, Dr. Dirk Nelson.

"The community does a lot for the College and supports us in a lot of ways," Nelson said. "I think it's important that the students have a chance to show the community what we can do for them."

He knows how important and supportive a Ronald McDonald House can be. His son, Philip Alexander, was born two months premature on June 1, 1990. Due to the compli-

cations caused by his premature birth, Alex was in Cox Medical Center South in Springfield for one month. Nelson stayed at the Ronald McDonald House as often as possible, but his wife, Renda, spent the entire month there.

"We were very blessed and very fortunate to have that facility," Nelson said. "We saw how it helped other families. Some families lost their children, other families — things worked out well. But it was a blessing to have regardless."

For a town to be a Ronald McDonald House recipient, a community has to establish need, have local McDonald's owners' backing for the project, and show community support. With only 184 of the Houses worldwide, it shows immense dedication on

the part of both the local McDonald's owners and the community to finance and maintain one in a city the size of Joplin.

The entire Jennings family, who owns 16 McDonald's (11 in the Joplin area and five in and around Grove, Okla.), has invested both finances and time to make the Joplin House a reality. The company president and board chairman is Mike Jennings. His mother, Libby; his wife, Brenda; and his sisters, Teresa Aggus and Julie Lewandowski, are all board members. Lewandowski owns and operates the McDonald's in Oklahoma.

The seed grant from the national McDonald's headquarters is \$25,000. The community is then called upon to provide the rest of the funding. □

STUDENT SERVICES

## Poole takes Billingsly night shift

By JALYN HIGGINS  
STAFF WRITER

As if being the president of the Philosophy Club, a member of Rotaract and the Hammons Program, a full-time student, and an active fan of anything Missouri Southern sponsors doesn't take enough of his time.

And on Feb. 2, one more responsibility was added to the list for Marshall Poole, junior English major. Poole is now the night manager for the Billingsly Student Center and the assistant coordinator of student activities.

"My life is school right now," he said, "so by me being able to spend more time here on campus, doing my studies, and at the same time being active in a student organization (Campus Activities Board), which I feel is vital to the further enjoyment of other students' lives, is a great opportunity for me."

According to Val Carlisle, coordinator of student activities, Poole will watch the Billingsly Student Center every evening until 9, when the building closes. He will supervise evening activities and be responsible for CAB events.

"I think because I am at that age level, I will be able to associate and appreciate the experience at the same time," Poole said.

Carlisle was looking for someone to serve as night manager, a position never before held by a student, who could "handle situations and was mature."

"I'm not going to put my neck on the line for someone else's behavior," Poole said. "CAB trips are an opportunity for students to get away from the day-to-day monotony of Missouri Southern life."

Poole plans to maintain discipline on the trips.

"Well, I'm going to take a big old paddle with me," he said. "If anybody gives me any slack, I'm going to give them five swats! Seriously, though, we are all adults here."

"I am looking forward to working with Marshall," Carlisle said, "because he is smart and creative. I think the students will really like him."

"I think he will help organize more events. Marshall is a really neat guy," she said. □

HOLIDAY FEATURE

Junior political science major Erik Svensson and Whitney Hudson, sophomore undecided major make up one of several international couples at Missouri Southern. Svensson from Sweden and Hudson is an American.

TIM WILSON/The Chart



## International Love Students' love-lines cross over borders

By MICHAEL RASKA  
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

International students at Missouri Southern may be experiencing a different culture and education, but none of the cultural differences and language barriers will ever break the power of love.

Several international students found the love of their lives at Southern.

"We met on a campus," said Erik Svensson, an international student from Sweden engaged to Whitney Hudson, an American undecided major. "Whitney's friend was dating my roommate, so she came over with her friend, and that's how we met. We have been together for 23 months now."

The Southern campus was also the site where Sylvain Hochart, senior business major from France, and Elin Wiking, junior undecided major from Sweden, met and fell in love. They moved in together this semester.

Both couples agreed that there are some cultural differences between American and European dating.

"To go out for a date in Joplin is far more difficult than in Europe," Svensson

said. "First of all, you have to have a car to do anything here. At home it is much easier; you can walk on a date to a restaurant or use many forms of public transportation."

Besides transportation, there are differences in the attitudes of people toward a couple.

"It is very conservative here," Hochart said. "People look at you when you hold each other around the shoulder or kiss each other. I think everybody here hides a little. In Europe we don't hide, and we also feel much more free."

Also, American women seem to be not as independent as European women, Svensson explained.

"Maybe they listen more to their parents," he said. "For example, if you want to go on a trip for a weekend, some parents here would have a problem with it."

"Erik is a lot more independent than most American men his age," Hudson said. "My parents still have a big say in the decisions I make even though I am 22."

Valentine's Day in Europe seems to be different as well.

"In Sweden it is not as commercialized

as here," Svensson explained. "You send Valentine cards only to your love mate. I don't think people buy Valentine gifts, maybe just flowers."

"In France it's not such a big deal; you don't see anything in shops," Hochart said. "However, all the couples go out for dinner to a restaurant, so you better book your table a long time before you go."

At the beginning Hochart and Wiking experienced difficulties in their communication.

"Elin and I cannot speak with our native languages to each other, since I can't speak Swedish and she can't speak French," Hochart said.

"We have to speak in English all the time, and it is difficult to express yourself with a language that you don't know perfectly. It was difficult at the beginning, but now when we know how we feel toward each other it is OK."

The couple does not have great cultural differences, according to Wiking.

"Sylvain and I try to understand each other a lot," she said. "In our little apartment we have recreated our little European world, and we will follow each other no matter where we are." □

STUDENT SENATE

## Committee recommends allocating smaller amounts

### College Republicans' request more money

By GINNY DUMOND  
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Two organizations left Wednesday night's Student Senate meeting with less money than they had requested as the Senate continued to conserve funds.

"We have 14 allocations to make this semester," Senate parliamentarian Jason Talley said. "In the last two sessions we have allowed enough money for one or two more organizations to receive an allocation."

The first organization to present a request was the College Republicans, who requested \$350 above the Senate allocation limit of \$1,000. College Republicans president Gary Crites said the

money was going to fund a trip to the group's state convention as well as help bring a speaker to campus.

"The convention is our No. 1 event," Crites said. "A lot of the events we go to are costly; some cost more than \$50 a person."

The finance committee recommended the group receive \$700.

While Crites was disappointed in the decision, he still believes the trip will be a success.

"I wish there had been some debate on it instead of immediately voting," he said. "But we will go and make the most of the trip."

Steve Gurley, president of the National Broadcasting Society, was next to present his request of \$1,000 for the organization's trip to Nashville, Tenn., for a national convention.

"It's a networking experience for those who attend," Gurley said. "In this industry it's not necessarily what you know but who you know."

"I wish there had been some debate on it instead of immediately voting. But we will go and make most of the trip."

Gary Crites  
President, College Republicans

The finance committee recommended and the Senate accepted an allocation of \$800.

The Criminal Justice Student Association was represented by junior senator Kenny Dean, who presented a request for \$1,000 for members to attend the national meeting in Albuquerque.

"Criminal justice is a changing field with new laws and new regulations," Dean said. "And every student attending will be paying at least \$350."

The CJSA was given the full amount requested.

Later, in new business, Senate President Sandy Fisk brought up two issues from last semester that had been projects of former Senate President Eden Aber.

The first is the issue of having a campus-wide community service week, and the second dealt with completing the Senate Web site. Both of these issues will be discussed further at next week's meeting. □

### SENATE COFFERS

#### FEB. 11 REQUEST:

■ COLLEGE REPUBLICANS—

Request: \$1,350

Received: \$700

■ NBS—

Request: \$1,000

Received: \$800

■ CJSA—

Request: \$1,000

Received: \$1,000

CURRENT BALANCE:

\$4,779.14

Missouri Southern's Student Senate allows clubs and organizations made up of students to request up to \$1,000 to pay for group expenses.

NICK PARKER/The Chart

## SOUTHERN NEWS BRIEFS

### Discovery Day to offer 'typical day' experience

High school students will invade the Missouri Southern campus Monday during Discovery Day.

"The day will focus on small, student-led tours, student panels, and speaking with faculty members," said Derek Skaggs, director of enrollment services. "We want to give them (prospective students) the idea of a typical day at Missouri Southern."

Discovery Day is an opportunity for high school students to visit the College campus and get a taste of life at Southern. They will be given general tours of the campus and can spend extra time in departments of their chosen field.

The day will also include sessions where the College visitors can meet with students and faculty in the area of interest.

"The idea is that the greatest resource we have are people," Skaggs said. "We are always looking for students to help us with our recruitment activities."

Campus tour guides and panelist members are just some of the opportunities for students to get involved with, he said.

"We just want our current students to be open and honest," Skaggs explained. "Our philosophy is anytime someone comes onto our campus, we want them to be in contact with our students."

Anyone interested in helping promote Southern should contact enrollment services for more information. □

### Italian film to highlight College film festival

The Italian film *Il Grido*, also known as *The Outcry*, will be shown at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday in Matthews Hall auditorium on the Missouri Southern campus.

This is the sixth program of the 36th annual International Film Festival presented by the Missouri Southern Film Society and co-sponsored by the Missouri Arts Council and the Institute of International Studies.

Directed by Michelangelo Antonioni, *Il Grido* is the story of a mechanic (Steve Cochran) who must deal with the abrupt demise of his long-time relationship with a married woman (Alida Valli). Wandering aimlessly from town to town, he revisits an old girl friend (Betsy Blair), takes up for a time with a service station attendant (Dorian Gray), then a prostitute (Lyn Shaw). Unable to find someone to love, he returns to his former mistress with tragic results.

Critics are divided in the assessment of *Il Grido*. Pierre Leprohon, in his book *The Italian Cinema*, considers it Antonioni's masterpiece. But there are those who consider it a failure. *Sight and Sound* observed it as "one of Antonioni's most important films because, this time, its problems and theme are central to his artistic and human personality." An excerpt from the *New York Times* reads: "An interesting, arresting slice of life. Antonioni is not interested in explanations so much as in character and situations. Steve Cochran is remarkably sensitive. Alida Valli is excellent." □

### Philosophy Club meeting to present guest speaker

A program dealing with ethics, cloning, and reproductive technology will be presented Monday.

Professor Joe Martire, department of philosophy, Southwest Missouri State University, will be the featured speaker of the presentation.

The program, sponsored by the Missouri Southern Philosophy Club, is planned for 3 p.m. in Webster Hall Room 106. Everyone is invited to attend the presentation. □



## EDITOR'S COLUMN

## Trampling through life's little nuisances

As if taking a full load of classes, writing for the newspaper, and working about 20 hours a week isn't enough, every day I am bothered by several minor yet unexcusable nuisances that complicate my life even more.

Nuisances a.k.a. pet peeves.

Yes, I'm just as annoyed as the next person when I get behind the 1985 minivan that decides only to speed up

when I decide to pass them or when the lady at the ATM can't figure out how it works. It's 1998; if you don't know how to use an ATM by now, don't use the one in the mall on Saturday afternoon when there are already three people in line after you.



**Susie Frisbie**  
Assistant Editor

I'm sure I'm not the only one who won't eat or drink after anyone else, no matter who that person may be. But what about that person who chews his or her gum and then saves it for later by putting it on his or her plate or glass as he or she eats?

I'm sorry if you one of those people who perform this gum-saving technique, but I can't even stand looking at my own chewed gum let alone yours. If money is so tight you can't afford another pack of gum, here's a hint: Wal-Mart has multipacks of Trident for \$.97.

Then, there's the guy in the drive-through window who I guess thinks the ketchup packets he gives you come out of his paycheck. After asking for a lot of ketchup, he gives me three.

A lot, three, I know I only had to take Math 110, but I don't think they're equal.

I hate to bash fast food restaurants too much but growing up with a father who eats everything plain has deeply effected my respect for the knowledge of drive-thru workers. I cannot even begin to count the number of times my father has ordered a cheeseburger, plain.

He said cheeseburger, not hamburger.

Yes, that does mean he wants cheese on his cheeseburger, hence the name CHEESEBURGER.

And what about those people who are constantly seeking compliments. They know they're not fat, but yet they're always saying, "I feel so fat." If you're fishing for a compliment, you're not going to get one from me, whether you're my friend or not.

After all, does a half-hearted "You're not fat," really help your self confidence that much?

I don't know about everyone else, but I only really believe the compliments that are given sincerely.

Last, but not least, there's the lady straight out of a Poison video who comes into my work, a video store, with only two minutes until closing time. Instead of just making a quick selection, she decides she needs to look around for an extra-long 15 minutes more.

Meanwhile, I'm giving here every clue to let her know WE'RE CLOSED. I vacuum, I turn our signs off, and I stand, continuously tapping my pen on the counter.

Then, of course, when she's finally ready to check out she realizes she doesn't have a membership yet.

When she's finally leaves the store she feeds me this little "I didn't realize you were closing" line.

Of course I reassure her that it's OK, but I'm really thinking, "Yeah, tons of video stores stay open past midnight, and by the way big hair went out with the '80s." □



## OUR EDITORIAL

Unsigned editorials on this page express the opinions of a majority of The Chart editors. Observations elsewhere on the page represent independent viewpoints of columnists, cartoonists, and readers.

## Caps, gowns, and earmuffs

As a College, Missouri Southern has many different minorities. Beside race, color, religion, or creed, there are the minorities of the academic community.

In this academic melting pot, Southern has minorities like non-trads, transfers, freshmen, and then there's the ruling minority, the white, Anglo-saxon men of the academic community, the sixth-year senior. That's just to name a few.

With almost all minorities on campus receiving some type of special treatment, it seems only obvious in this time of political correctness the last minority to go without any special service has had their needs met.

These are the December graduates. They weren't asking for their own land, they weren't asking for equal pay, nor were they asking for the remodeling of the entire universe. All they wanted was a special holiday.

They wanted their own graduation day.

Until recently, December graduates had to wait until May to walk across the stage to greet College President Julio Leon.

Some of these graduates had suffered at the hands of the oppressive "Sixth Year Senior" for so long they hurried their studies so they could make it out of Southern in less than the traditional four years. Their hard work and determination was paid back by making them wait five months to receive their diploma.

Southern had balked at the idea of a December graduation for years because it feared the cost wouldn't justify the event. It was as if the College was saying that December graduates don't deserve their own ceremony because they haven't invested as much into the College as those who are graduating in the spring after six years of study.

Poppycock!

Most December graduates should be held up as examples of how the College experience is easily overcome. Their work ethic and determination should be exalted in College Orientation courses, not denounced because they are bucking the system.

It's not exactly apologizing for Hiroshima, but the College has made a big step appeasing the needs of all its students. □

## YOUR LETTERS

The Chart welcomes letters from readers. Letters must be signed and include a phone number for verification. Letters should be 300 words or fewer. Submit letters to The Chart office on the third floor of Webster Hall, fax them to (417) 625-9742, or send via e-mail. Our e-mail address: Chart@mail.mssc.edu. Letters are due by noon Monday for publication in that week's edition.

## Students stick up for maligned Dean Gray

We would like to take issue with the letter from Mr. Dalton, which appeared in *The Chart* Jan. 30. Many of us are upset with your comments regarding Dean Gray and the school of business.

First of all, Dec. 12 was the last day of classes. Most students and alumni know that hours of the computer labs may be different at that time. The school of business lab assistants are available to help students with the equipment and watch to make sure computers don't "get up and walk away." Since lab assistants also have upcoming finals, we feel sure that the door was locked because there were no assistants available. So it would seem logical that the door would be locked.

As for Dean Gray asking where you were from, it seems that he obviously did not recognize you. Therefore, it is reasonable that he would screen anyone being in the

lab unsupervised. It also seems logical for him to wonder why you were not using the facilities available in the school of arts and sciences.

The word "arrogance" certainly seems out of line. We don't believe that anyone who has been around Dean Gray would ever use the word arrogant to describe him. Many of us have seen him go out of his way to make our labs available. We know that Dean Gray has actually made several trips from his home in order to make the labs available early in the mornings, late in the evenings, on weekends, and even when the labs are closed for breaks. We sometimes wonder when he sleeps or eats since he's always at the office. We do regret the circumstances of your visit. We suspect that perhaps you were having a bad day and misread his questioning.

Concerning your comments on "fair share" of funding, we did some research concerning your comments. We discovered that a big part of the school of business' resources come from wealthy "alumni" who willed the money to the school on their deaths. Because of these donations, our "fair share" of college resources is given back to other departments. This actually makes more money available to the other areas.

We are sorry that your visit did not go as planned. We hope the next time you visit your alma mater that you will stop by and see us. We are sure you will realize that the school of business welcomes everyone!

Vickie Kelley  
Sophomore marketing major  
and 10 other school of business students

## Graduate ponders reason for late access

In response to Mr. Dalton's letter published Jan. 30, 1998: After checking a calendar, I noticed that Dec. 12, 1997, was a Friday ... the last day of the fall semester ... now I'm wondering ... what could be so imperative that necessitated use of ANY equipment at such an unreasonable time. It would seem that such use could and should have been taken care of earlier.

I could be mistaken about department funding allocations, but an EDUCATED calculations points directly to a particular student's major, i.e., departmental funding is based upon enrollment! If for some reason, the environmental health majors' equipment wasn't working or it was LOCKED UP (which Mr. Dalton failed to mention!), it would seem that

his complaint would be better served by addressing THEIR policies.

Having known Dean Gray for a few years now, in addition to have taken a class from him, I have NEVER found him to be arrogant. Busy? Yes, very ... but then, the time of all college deans is at a premium. An EDUCATED guess makes me think he was on his way home after a BUSY day/week/month/semester. He was probably the only faculty member left in the building! REMEMBER, we are talking about the last 30 minutes of the last day of the semester.

I am also an alumnus of Missouri Southern and a business major (management). I humbly suggest that Mr. Dalton and his friend were exercising a poor decision and

lack proprietary time management skills! As an alumnus, Mr. Dalton should recognize that CURRENT STUDENTS do have priority for use of College facilities.

As far as the future is concerned, I would say anyone is welcome in Matthews Hall. And, within reason, anyone would be welcome to use the equipment. Frankly, Mr. Dalton's comments are asinine. He failed to mention whether or not he was able to print what he needed, and MORE IMPORTANTLY, did he thank Dean Gray for the opportunity?

Richard Shaw  
Missouri Southern graduate

## IN PERSPECTIVE

## Immigrating to Southern proves difficult

One day early in the year I went down to the financial aid office at Missouri Southern in regards to a letter I got questioning my citizenship. I am a Navy brat, and when my father was stationed in Norway, I happened to be born in Oslo with a pewter spoon in my mouth, therefore my need in petitioning the office. But in all truth, I am an American with U.S. citizenship from birth. Well, I thought to myself, this is pretty silly. I'll just take my U.S. passport with me and case solved.

I'd like to insert a disclaimer here. I believe we have a wonderful staff at the financial aid office and that the staff is courteous and helpful at all times.

This is not the main point of my column, but I don't feel that *The Chart* should get 2,000 letters in regards to my column. Well, so in I went, passport in hand, with the attitude that I was carrying with me uberproof and that the letter I got questioning my citizenship was just a precaution that should be taken. So at the counter I handed my passport to the personnel and while they scurried off to do whatever I half jokingly in my mind thought to myself, "Hey, if this doesn't do it nothing will."

Well, apparently that is what happened. My passport, I was promptly informed, the document that had served as proof of my citizenship in many a European country, was not valid proof. They went on to state that if I brought my green card or visa or something like that, it would suffice. Green card? Visa? But that's for foreigners! My mind began to race as the first thing I thought of was if there was an INS bus nearby, its engine warm and idling in the parking lot ready to take me off to a foreign land where I was doomed to spend the rest of my life. The scene from *Born in East LA* where Cheech Martin pleads with the federal agents that he was born in East LA, started popping in my head. Then it hit me: had I taken this citizenship for granted? Did it have an expiration date? You know, like use before Dec. 1, 1998, or fresh until so and so. I mean I had voted every time I had been allowed, well maybe not so much in the local elections, and I had paid my taxes ... a little late but still. What could I have done wrong? I had done no malice to anyone knowingly.

Albeit in back of my mind I know what I had done wrong: I had done America wrong, taken my rights, to say what I wanted freely, to get a job, to pursue happiness, and all that other good stuff that Thomas Jefferson had said back sometime before World War II for granted. And I guess I didn't appreciate it until it was all gone and taken away and now it was. To imagine that I had gone through life for 24 years giving more importance to the Smurfs than to my rights as an American. Yep, I was guilty, guilty, guilty; it was pretty low of me to assume that I could acquiesce liberty so easily. What a rotten thing of me to do, woe me, to take truth, liberty, and justice and toss them in the back seat of my car like some kind of homework due yesterday. I had no excuse.

Luckily, I got a reprieve as minutes later I, Walter Mitty, was told that my passport was after all valid proof. Yes today they'd have to send the INS bus back to the station 'cause I was staying and boy did it feel good to be an American. Alas, I was exonerated and I think Mick Jagger put it best when he said, "You can't always get what you want, but sometimes you get just what you need." I've learned my lesson; freedom is not something to be taken so lightly, cause it could be gone just like that. Thanks, America, it won't happen again, promise. □



**Alan Brady**  
Student Senate  
Treasurer

THE CHART

SPJ — The Nation's Best Non-Daily Collegiate Newspaper (1995, 1996)  
ACP National Pacemaker (1997)  
ACP Pacemaker Finalist (1982, 1986, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1994, 1997) MCMA — "Best in State" (1993-94, 1996-97)

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## CRIMINAL JUSTICE

# Officials support new justice center

By TAMMY SPICER  
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

Partnership was a word used often in a meeting between Sen. Marvin Singleton (R-Seneca), Robert Terry, head of Missouri Southern's criminal justice department, and Col. Weldon Wilhoit, commandant of the Missouri State Highway Patrol. They were present at a news conference Monday in the auditorium of the Anderson Justice Center.

"One of the biggest increases in law enforcement is training," Wilhoit said. "I applaud Missouri Southern for their program and the academy. We will continue to work on our partnership with the College."

Cpt. Roger Stottlemire, Troop D commander, and Lt. Joe Swearingen, Troop D satellite commander in Carthage, were also on hand for the conference.

The 500,000-square-foot addition to the Anderson Justice Center opened for classes this semester. The Law Enforcement Training Academy is a state-certified basic training institute.

"With the recent expansion of the Anderson Justice Center, our facility has much to offer," Singleton said. "Local law enforcement agencies are taking advantage of the use of the Justice Center's latest technologies, and it seems logical for the Highway Patrol to use these facilities in Joplin instead of traveling to Springfield."

Wilhoit explained that the Highway Patrol plans to look into the programs offered at the College and see how it can fit in.



Robert Terry, head of Missouri Southern's criminal justice department, Col. Weldon Wilhoit, commandant of the Missouri State Highway Patrol and Sen. Marvin Singleton (R-Seneca) discuss some of the features of the new addition during a tour of the Anderson Justice Center this week.

"The partnership between the patrol and the academy is very strong," said Dr. Blake Wolf, associate professor of criminal justice. "We have utilized Troop D headquarters for training before. And they have often provided us with support in the form of instructors."

Singleton pointed out that the

expansion is important in the proper training of law enforcement officers in Missouri.

He sponsored legislation in 1996 that brought the required amount of peace officer basic training requirements from 300 hours to 470.

Missouri now ranks 23rd in the

nation for training requirements.

"The criminal justice department activities are a vital and working part of the law enforcement effort in southwest Missouri and adjacent states," Singleton said. "I don't think we should ever stop learning. It is a life-long process."

After the press conference, Terry

gave a tour of the new facility to the visitors on campus, including all three television stations from the area. The tour covered improved areas such as the firing range and the forensics department.

"It is an impressive facility," Wilhoit said after touring the addition. "It is really state of the art."

TIM WILSON/The Chart

## COMPUTER ANIMATION

## Degree blends art, drafting

By MARILYN TAFT  
STAFF WRITER

A new associate degree to be offered by Missouri Southern will blend together skills taught in two other programs.

The program, tentatively named computer animation, is scheduled to begin in the fall of 1998.

"Types of jobs you can get with this degree are in Walt Disney Studios, computer animation market, advertising, commercial gaming and video games, and the film industry," said Francis Bartholet Jr., assistant professor of computer aided drafting and design.

The combining of the two disciplines gives students the advantage of artistic technique combined with computer technology.

"Dodge is now building and testing their cars before they're even built, using some of this animation software, seeing how they'll perform and stuff like that," Jeff Hagerman, sophomore computer aided drafting and design major, explained while demonstrating the new software already in the Ummel Technology Building.

Changes in Ummel, allowing for the animation degree, have already begun with more scheduled.

Most of the changes are not the kind students can see.

"New software and upgrading hardware," said Dr. J.S. Duggal, associate professor, about the changes. The one item that can be seen is the Silicone Graphics work station.

"We have an industrial grade graphics work station," said Bartholet pointing to the Silicone Graphics machine.

These new additions and alterations will be completed by the start of fall classes.

Some students at Southern already are using the new software.

They are making an animated walk-through tour, in 3D, of the Southern campus for College President Julio Leon.

Jim Bray, head of the art department, visualizes the art classes as a support for what Ummel is doing with the principals of design.

There will probably be three levels: one will be a basic design class dealing with the orchestration of design elements in a two-dimensional or three-dimensional area.

"After that I would advise them to go into color and get a grounding in color, so that they have some sensitivity as to what a split complement or a double complement would do and how they work," Bray said.

Helping students use all facets of a color scheme is one goal Bray is setting for his art students.

"I'm just starting to see what it's all about, and I'm liking what I see," said Brianna Abel, sophomore undecided major. □

## COMPUTER SCIENCE

“Students are actually going to learn how to get inside a computer”



Jeff Hagerman, sophomore computer aided drafting and design major, works on one of his networking assignments.

## Class provides hands-on experience

### New networking degree targets in-demand skills

By BETH HAMILTON  
STAFF WRITER

The rain pours down and lightning flashes. A man typing on a computer jumps as thunder booms and a surge of power hits the server. The system is down and the screen reads ERROR READING FROM NETWORK DRIVE. That is when a networker comes in to save the day.

"We recognize there's been a significant demand for people with that kind of background in the last four or five years," said Dr. Jack Oakes, head of the computer information science department.

A network is a system of computers joined by cables and connected to a server. The server allows the computers to connect to other networks in order to pass information between machines.

Missouri Southern now offers a two-year associate degree in networking. Classes for this degree began this fall.

"We prepare students to install network operating systems and maintain them," Oakes said. "They will know how to install hardware, define users and user rights, and manage it on a day to day basis."

Dr. Jack Spurlin, dean of the school of

technology, said networking is a high demand area with an excellent starting salary.

"When you set computers up in a network, you need someone to manage and administer that network," Spurlin said.

"Our degree is quite a bit of hands-on," he said. "Students are actually going to learn how to get inside a computer and replace cards and do those kinds of things that are necessary with managing a network."

Bill Pinet, assistant professor of computer information science, now teaches many of the networking classes. He has been working with networking for 10 years and says it is a field with workers in high demand.

"Novell says we're going to have a billion networks by the year 2000," he said. "And for every 100 machines you need a full-time person — give or take."

What does it take to be in networking? "I look for people who eat, sleep, and breathe computers," Pinet said.

Eric Price, senior computer information science major, agrees with this philosophy.

"With the industry the way it is, it is changing every day," he said. "You have to live with it almost constantly in order to be good at it."

Price, who works at Computerland, just missed getting an associate's degree in networking. He suggested to

Southern having networking classes available would be beneficial to students because it is a rapidly growing job field.

"I already have a job where I do the networking," he said. "But it would've been beneficial to have had a primer in this technology before I was stuck out there to learn it on my own."

"I'm really glad they have finally added networking to the curriculum," Price said.

Every big business has a network of some sort that it uses, according to Jason Williams, sophomore computer information science major. Williams, who is on his way to earning an associate's degree in networking, says it is not hard so far.

"Computers are easy to put together," he said. "They snap together like Legos. What comes after is the hard part, as far as writing software or whatever."

Williams would like to start his own company that builds computers and sets up networks.

"Even though computers are big right now and everyone has one," he said, "it still seems like a lot of people don't know how to use them efficiently."

Spurlin says Southern is happy to offer this degree.

"We're excited," he said. "We try to react — If we see a need that's coming up, we want to meet the need."

"We want to make our students marketable." □

## HIGHER EDUCATION BRIEFS

### Team recommends Northwest accreditation

The North Central Accreditation (NCA) evaluation team that visited the Northwest Missouri State University campus Jan. 26-28 has recommended a 10-year, unrestricted accreditation for Northwest.

The NCA, which ensures minimum standards are being met at colleges and universities, told Northwest officials the findings from their three-day visit to campus far exceeded their expectations. According to Northwest President Dean Hubbard, a 10-year, unrestricted accreditation is somewhat rare.

"The bottom line of the visit was that Northwest received a ringing endorsement for its quality efforts," Hubbard said. "We received the highest recommendation possible. It's a tribute to everyone at Northwest."

Generally, colleges and universities submit a self-study report to the accreditation team, but Northwest used the Missouri Quality Award application it produced when the university won the award last year.

"We're committed to the quality principles detailed in the application, and they are what drives Northwest," Hubbard said. "To produce a self-study report seemed to be unnecessary and redundant, so we asked NCA if they would accept our Missouri Quality Award application, and they agreed."

Utilizing the application saved considerable time and resources for Northwest. The NCA found the application to be an exceptional description of Northwest's goals, objectives, and processes. Northwest is the first institution to use this type of quality criteria as a substitute for the traditional self study. □

### Enrollment increases, dorms fill at Western

Missouri Western State College has seen an increased enrollment for the 1998 spring semester with a total of 4,836 students registering for classes.

The 1997 spring semester recorded an enrollment of 4,543. Total credit hours increased from 54,095 to 56,485 this year.

Along with this increase in enrollment, Missouri Western's residence halls are at 93.6 percent capacity, compared to 83 percent capacity in spring 1997.

"We are very pleased about the increase in enrollment and the increase in residential life as compared with last year during second semester," said President Janet Murphy. "In part, this enrollment increase is due to the increase in the number of high school students taking college courses from Missouri Western through our dual credit program." □

### Labette student paper hosts trivia tournament

The Labette Community College student newspaper, the *Spectrum*, is challenging students from the four-state area to a trivia tournament March 7 in Parsons, Kan. Top winners in the tournament could win up to \$1,000.

Teams of up to three members may enter by completing forms that are available at the Book Barn in Joplin. Entry fee is \$30 per team. Entry deadline is Feb. 25.

The tournament will be conducted in a format similar to college quiz bowls with a lightning or toss-up round and three bonus questions for each toss-up. Participation will be limited to the first 100 teams to submit entry forms.

"We're looking forward to hosting a large number of students on our campus," said John Klingenstein, LCC director of public relations.

For more information, persons may contact Klingenstein at 316-421-6700, Ext. 12. □



SOCIAL SCIENCE CLUB

# Display highlights Black History Month

By JEFF BILLINGTON  
ASSISTANT EDITOR

Part of U.S. history that has been seemingly neglected for most of the country's 222-year history is that of the African-American.

A display depicting famous African-American politicians, athletes, entertainers, and writers on the second floor of Webster Hall may help to bring this overlooked piece of American heritage into view.

"Unfortunately I think a lot of people don't know much about the history of African-Americans in this

country," said Dr. Karl Schmidt, assistant professor of history. "It's very important to point out, both large and small, the things they do by putting out this kind of display which is very visually oriented."

Angela Nichols, senior history major, said the idea for the display arose a little over a year ago.

"The Social Science Club made a trip to Memphis to go to the civil rights museum," Nichols said. "That's what prompted us, wanting to share that with the students on campus."

"The Social Science Club is really great for supporting this type of thing," Schmidt said.

Nichols said the display was put up for the first time last year in conjunction with Phi Alpha Theta, the international history honors club. She said most of the photographs in the display are easily recognized.

"It's set up in a format so that the photographs are identified by number," she said. "There is a key to go with it so people can determine if they correctly guessed who they are looking at. We're just hoping that it will produce enough interest that maybe some more people will want to get involved in adding to it."

Nichols said club members set up the display early this year because

of the day classes started, Jan. 19.

"Returning on the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., we felt let's go ahead and begin honoring him from that day rather than waiting until the beginning of February," she said. "So we are actually running it a month and a half."

Nichols said even though club members don't get much personal feedback, they have seen several people enjoying the display.

"I've seen a couple of people stand out there and discuss different personalities that are represented," she said. "I think it's just so significant in this department that deals with political science, history,

and sociology I can't think of a more important department to showcase that type of display."

Nichols said she hopes students will take the chance to see this display honoring black history and even take steps in helping to bring more programs to campus that spotlight black history.

"I just hope people will take the time to walk down this hallway in this building and take a look at it," she said.

"If anyone has any ideas for creating a display next year or doing something in conjunction with Black History Month I hope they get in touch with someone." □

FORENSICS CLUB



SPECIAL TO THE CHART/Donnie Simmons

Discussing the different styles of debating at a competition at Arizona State are, from left, Becca Cassidy, sophomore speech/theatre education major; Tad Stricker, freshman political science major; Joe Day, sophomore speech communication major; and Curt Gilstrap, director of forensics.

## Squad proves debating skills

### Club travels nation for competitions

By HEATHER DEMIER  
STAFF WRITER

A group that provides students with the opportunity to enhance their communication skills seems pleased with its performance so far this semester.

The Missouri Southern forensics squad has competed in several debates since it was started again on campus in September.

The team traveled to McNeese State University in Louisiana in January, where it placed third overall.

Southern also competed at a Webster University tournament that same weekend and placed fourth overall.

Later in January, Southern competed at Arkansas Tech, where students placed fourth overall.

"Both of our debate teams made it to out rounds," said Curt Gilstrap, director of forensics. "Tim Parrish and Joe Day went to quarterfinals, while Tad Stricker and Becca Cassidy went to semifinals. A fourth and fifth are

excellent for a new squad."

The team placed third overall in individual events and fourth overall in debate at Arkansas Tech," Gilstrap said.

Parrish, freshman criminal justice major, has been involved with speech and debate since his freshman year of high school.

"Forensics competition is a real-world application of communication skills most students only get to use in the classroom," he said.

Day, sophomore communications major, has also been active in speech and debate throughout high school.

His favorite things about the forensics squad include the scholarships, traveling with the team, meeting new people, and diversifying his speech skills.

Both Day and Parrish are pursuing a career in law and agree they benefit from listening to people present arguments and now can respond in a productive manner.

Donnie Simmons, freshmen communications major, is involved in forensics because it enhances his public speaking skills. He also benefits from "being surrounded by people who pat you on your back and

give you real constructive criticism on how to improve yourself."

As a community service project, the club is starting a recycling program due to the large amount of aluminum cans on campus.

"With all the soda machines around, there is a big output of aluminum cans," Simmons said. "Moving into a decade of recycling awareness, we felt that we could step in and do our part to help."

The team returned Sunday night from Arkansas State University, where it placed third overall. Southern's parliamentary debate team placed first. Gilstrap said members are doing well for being such a new squad.

"We practice three or four times a week," said Gilstrap, who also practices with members individually to make sure they are ready for competition.

"Forensics teaches essential skills needed in all areas of life, no matter what your interests are," said Stricker, freshman undecided major.

The forensics squad meets every Monday at 3 p.m. in Room 319 of Webster Hall. Anyone is welcome to attend. □

WORLD WIDE WEB

## Teachers utilize net as educational tool

By MARLA HINKLE  
STAFF WRITER

As the Internet becomes an increasingly reliable source of vast information, many instructors are implementing Web sites into their curriculum as an additional means of learning.

"It's a wonderful opportunity for all of us to learn from each other," said Judy Bastian, instructor of Spanish.

She says the Internet is a wonderful opportunity for both her and her students.

Students who invest the time, Bastian said, have an opportunity to get information that may not be so readily available to them.

"The Internet is also beneficial because it allows those of us in class to see the Web sites and take advantage of the time that other students have invested in searching for this information," she said.

Bastian uses the Internet in class by showing the computer screen on a large-screen television in the classroom.

One of the new ways she utilizes the Internet in the classroom this semester is by having students in her beginning Spanish class select a country and research it on the World Wide Web.

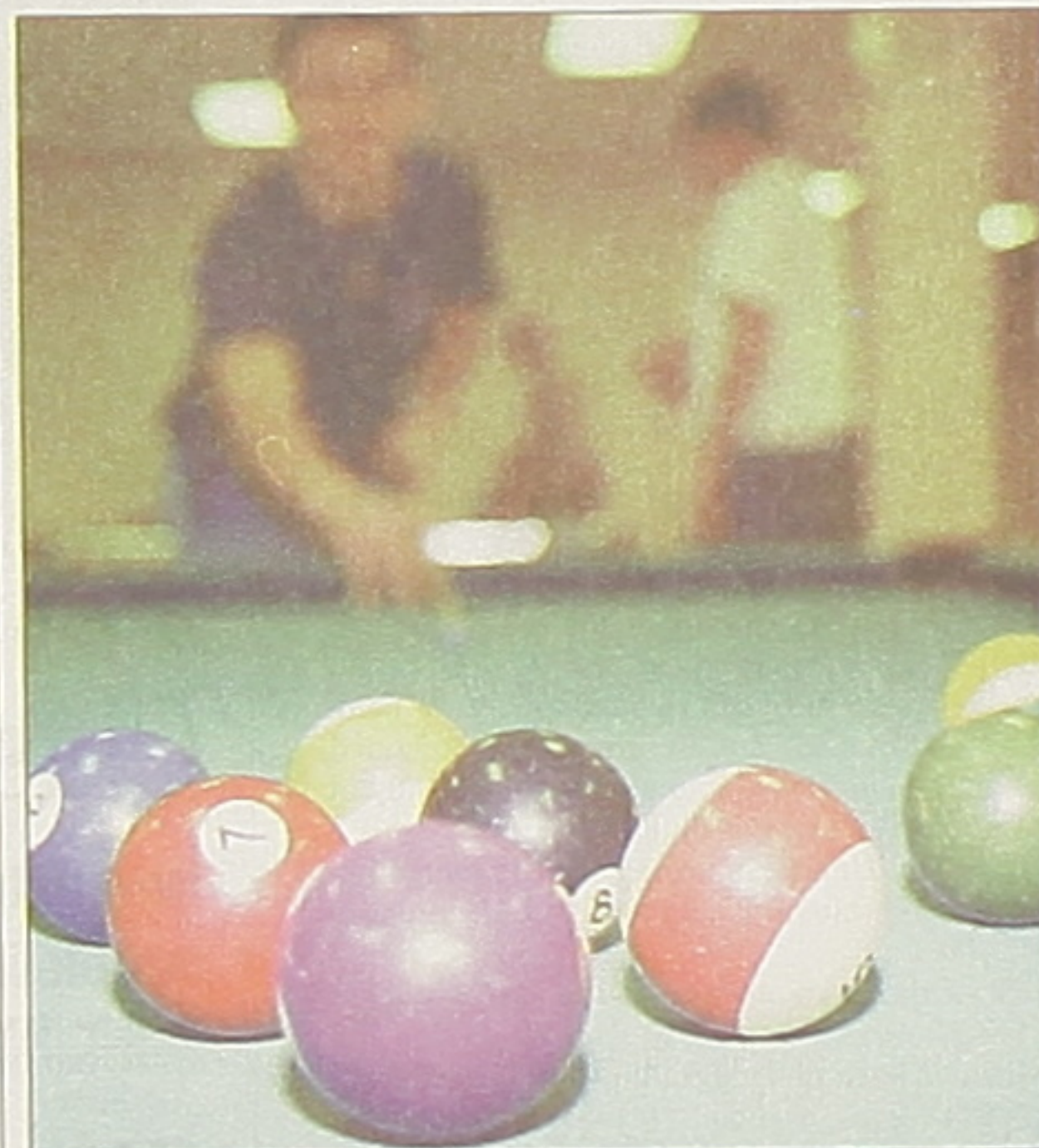
"Certainly, the Internet helps us learn vast amounts of information about a country and adds a new dimension to the classroom, especially with language classes," she said. "Communications has a Web site in which you can get news from various countries around the world in Spanish, and I think that as students become more cognitive and aware, they have a great opportunity to get first-hand, up-to-date information on a daily basis."

Ward Bryant, assistant professor of communications, also uses the Internet to help Communication Law students with the vast amounts of information that many cases often contain.

"There is so much information that you can get now, and the main thing when dealing with the Internet is making sure the student understands that just because it's there doesn't mean that the information is accurate," Bryant said.

"I think students like the Internet because they can get the information immediately at one source instead of going to the library and going through different ones, but I want there to be a balance," he said. "The Internet is not the only source for information; you still have to go through the books and articles to get the full benefit." □

### ON CUE



TIM WILSON/The Chart

Chuck Sargent, sophomore biology major, concentrates on a pool shot in the Student Life Center while staying out of the weather.

# CAMPUS CALENDAR

If your organization has an event you would like publicized, call Jeff Billington at 625-9311.



■ **International Film: Il Grido (The Outcry)** a 1957 Italian film, 7:30 p.m. Tuesday in Matthews Hall Auditorium \$1.50 adults and \$1 senior citizens and students. For more information call 625-9614

Today 13	Saturday 14	Sunday 15	Monday 16	Tuesday 17	Wednesday 18	Thursday 19
<p>Deadline to pay balance of the BSU Spring Break Trip to Panama City. For info call 624-0925</p> <p>9 a.m.—Pick up reserved Valentines BSC Room 112</p> <p>7 p.m.—Red Cross Valentine's Dance, BSC Connor Ball Room</p>	<p>Valentines Day 1 &amp; 3 p.m.—Basketball vs. Truman State</p>	<p>Student Life Center hours; 10 a.m. - 12 a.m.</p>	<p>9 a.m.—Southern Discovery Day, BSC 3rd floor</p> <p>3 p.m.—Philosophy Club: Ethics, Cloning, Reproductive Technology, SMSU Professor Joe Martire, Webster Hall Room 106</p> <p>7 p.m.—Baptist Student Union Quest Fellowship, Baptist Student Union</p>	<p>Intramural Bowling League sign-up deadline. Pool and racquetball office.</p> <p>9 a.m.—Morning Mass, BSC, Room 306</p>	<p>5:45 &amp; 7:45 p.m.—Basketball at Rolla</p> <p>6:30 p.m.—Business seminar: Current Issues in International Business MH 102</p> <p>9 p.m.—Intramurals Bowling League rules meeting, Carl Richards East • Wesley Foundation Midweek Worship</p>	<p>Senior assessment test sign-up deadline, Assessment Office, Matthews Hall</p> <p>11 a.m. to 1 p.m.—Kolonia Lunch, Stegge Hall</p> <p>12:20 p.m.—Model UN meeting, Webster Hall, Room 223</p> <p>• NBS, MSTV Studio</p> <p>6:30 p.m.—FCA meeting, BSC, 2nd floor lounge</p>



# Magazine showcases students' artistry

**Creative publication demands hard work and collaboration**

By BRIAN PALMER  
ASSISTANT EDITOR

Every year, two departments collaborate in an effort to enrich the lives of Missouri Southern students. That collaboration results in *The Winged Lion*, a publication that showcases the talents of students in literature and art.

The publication is entered in several competitions and traditionally fares well, having won Pacemaker Awards from the Associated Collegiate Press/National Scholastic Press Association in 1985, 1987, and 1995.

"It's always rated very highly by national judges," said Dr. Joy Dworkin, associate professor of English. "It's a reflection of the talent of the student body."

Dave Noblett, associate professor of art, also cites an award for typesetting from Adobe as a high point of the publication's history.

Although *The Winged Lion* is officially a collaboration between the English and art departments, anyone may submit literature and/or

artwork for consideration for publication.

"Not all the artwork is by art majors, not all the literature is by English majors," Dworkin said. "We've sometimes had the staff submit works, too."

But in the end, the *Lion* is all students. Students create the vast majority of the works, students decide what literature to include, and students design the publication.

"For the students, it's an excellent learning experience working within a budget," Noblett said. "Maybe they can't do what they want to do because they can't afford to, and they have to make something look good with what we have, so it's actually a real-world working experience."

Kim Taylor, junior art major, agrees with Noblett.

"It's good experience to add to your résumé and your portfolio."

Designing the *Lion* isn't just the holy grail of résumé experience. Since it is a no-credit, no-pay job, much work outside of class is required of the designers.

"There's a great deal of time involved in this, and they don't get any money or any scholarships for this, so they're only doing it for the love of graphic design," Noblett said.



TIM WILSON/The Chart

Bobbie Snodgrass, Idalle Jansson, and Wayne Barnes, senior graphic design majors, discuss design possibilities for the layout of *The Winged Lion*. The annual literary arts publication will be available in April.

Wayne Barnes, senior art major, worked on last year's *Winged Lion* and has become accustomed to the tough schedule associated with the publication.

"Usually all the hours you put in are after everyone leaves, after all

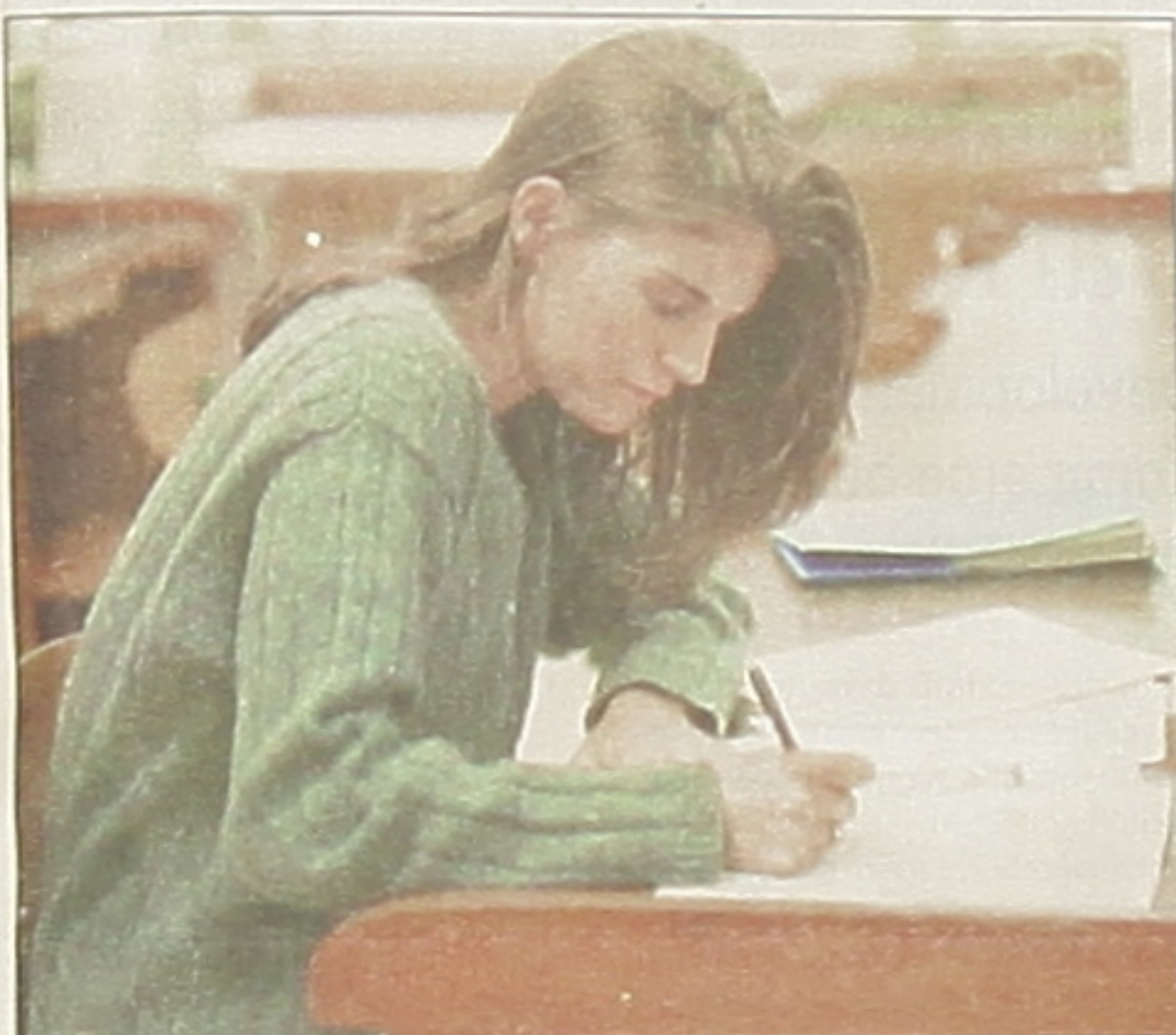
your classes are over, on weekends ... or on the night before it's due," he said with a sidelong glance toward Noblett. "It really keeps you running. It's fun."

Every year the publication must overcome the hurdle of building

upon last year's issue, while remaining fresh and innovative.

"My objective is to get better people and have a publication that gets better every year," Noblett said. "We want a publication that reflects the high quality of the College." □

## ART DEPARTMENT



DEBORAH SOLOMON/The Chart

Heather Johnson, sophomore, graphic arts major, looks for designs to create a piece of jewelry. The idea for designs comes from happenings.

## Jewelry class uses creativity, fun

By DEBORAH SOLOMON  
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Ink blots, strings dipped in ink and rolled on a paper, scribbles on paper.

These things might make some think of a psychological test, but for students in Beginning and Advanced Jewelry Making and Design class this is just a way to find a design.

"It's called happenings," said Heather Johnson, sophomore graphic arts major.

"You look for shapes on the paper; you have to do hundreds of them to find the right design."

For Johnson, the class was a way to learn about something she has an interest in.

"I've been interested in jewelry

making for a long time," she said. "I've always enjoyed jewelry of all types, and it is interesting to make pieces of your own."

The class is also a way to be creative.

For Michelle Boley, sophomore psychology major, the strain of her major made her decide to take the class.

"Psychology is such a tough major, and this gives me a way that I can state my creative side and release emotions," she said.

"You get to be very creative."

Boley said pendants are her favorite type of jewelry to make.

"Pendants are worn around the neck and seen most often," she said.

"I like to make big, bulky rings, too."

The class requires patience and a little bit of money.

Johnson said to get started, a person needs his or her own tools. The most expensive part, however, is the metal, which is ordered from companies.

In the Beginning Jewelry class, students spend time watching film strips on different ways to make jewelry and on happenings.

Most of the jewelry is made with silver, and the classes do some basic stone setting.

Johnson said she enjoys jewelry designing enough that it could lead to career opportunities.

"As I get into it more, jewelry making is something I might like to do on the side," she said.

"If I get good enough, who knows?" □

## COMMENTARY

## Pearl Jam's new CD fails to 'Yield' majority of good tracks

Somewhere I heard that members of my generation are typically somewhat psychic. I generally don't subscribe to that notion, but I did have a certain feeling that I would be disappointed by the new Pearl Jam CD, *Yield*.

Perhaps I should send my resume to Dionne Warwick, because my latent psychic abilities have just increased a thousandfold.

Just listen to "Do the Evolution," a weird little diddy that sounds like The Talking Heads meet Nirvana in some evil mad-scientist experiment gone awry. The jazzy rocker "Faithful" and track 11 "In Hiding" are

so mundane it makes me sad. I know Pearl Jam underwent pressure after the release of *Ten* because of the explosion of copycat bands (like Silverchair), but just because a band is copying another doesn't mean the original band (Pearl Jam, in this case) should stop doing what it does best — namely make Pearl Jam music.

Instead, they have opted to do what was done unto them — sound like someone else. As bad as that prospect is, they can't even do that right, because they can't decide who they want to sound like.

"All Those Yesterdays" has a chorus that rings like it came directly from Sgt. Pepper's.

"Low Light" has a lick that sounds as though it were copped directly from "Freebird," while the rest of the song should be called "Crosby, Stills, and Nash Lite." The single "Given to Fly" sounds like a B-side from U2's *The Joshua Tree*.

There are high points, however. When a group of musicians as accomplished as Stone Gossard, Mike

McCready, Jeff Ament, Jack Irons, and Eddie Vedder get together there will be some high points.

For example, the fast rocker "Brain of J" is free from Pearl Jam's usual presumptuousness — it merely rocks. "Wishlist" is another song showcasing the band's talent, but the lyrics are too ironic: "I wish I was a messenger and all the news was good." Well, I am the messenger, and all the news isn't good.

"Pilate" has a real 70s rock feel with a bass line very typical of Ament's work, but the lyrics he wrote for Vedder are nearly senseless.

Anyone trying to decide on an album to purchase with his or her hard-earned cash should ask one question: "Do I like the *Vitalogy* Pearl Jam better than the *Ten* Pearl Jam?"

Anyone who answers yes to that question should seriously consider purchasing *Yield*. Anyone who cannot answer yes to that question should consider purchasing a Jimi Hendrix album instead. Remember Hendrix? He was from Seattle. □

## America's most listened to



1. *Sex and Candy*, Marcy Playground
2. *Time of your life*, Green Day
3. *Given to Fly*, Pearl Jam
4. *Bitter Sweet Symphony*, The Verve
5. *How's it going to be*, Third Eye Blind
6. *Brick*, Ben Folds Five
7. *Clumsy*, Our Lady Peace
8. *Touch, Peel and Stand*, Days of the New
9. *3 AM*, Matchbox 20
10. *Everything to Everyone*, Everclear

Modern Rock Tracks, Top 10 positions/ Issue Date: February 14, 1998  
Courtesy of Billboard/BPI Communications Inc., and Soundscan Inc.



**In Review**  
Brian Palmer  
Assistant Editor

## COMING ATTRACTIONS

### On Campus

#### TAYLOR AUDITORIUM

Feb. 25-28—Guys and Dolls  
March 6—Carmina Burana ballet, 8 p.m.

#### SPIVA ART GALLERY

Feb. 18—Poetry Reading: Dr. Erik Bitterbaum, Mike Rodgers, Kim Nicolas, 3 p.m.  
Feb. 23—Celebrate the Pond exhibit

#### MATTHEWS AUDITORIUM

Foreign Films  
Feb. 17—Il Grido (The Outcry)  
March 3—Page of Madness  
March 17—The Promoter  
March 31—The Forty-First  
April 14—The Torment

#### WEBSTER AUDITORIUM

Feb. 27—Langston Hughes Celebration, 7 p.m.

### Joplin

#### THE BYPASS 624-9095

Feb. 13—Oreo Blue  
Feb. 14—Skybopfly  
Feb. 20—King Friday  
Feb. 21—Live Comedy  
Feb. 25—Jim Thackery  
Feb. 27—Trout Fishing in America

#### SPIVA CENTER FOR THE ARTS

Feb. 20-March 22—PhotoSpiva

### CHAMPS 782-4944

Feb. 13-14—Raisin' Kane  
Feb. 20-21—Trip Tones  
Feb. 24—Josh Smith  
Feb. 27-28—Hardtops

#### MEMORIAL HALL

Feb. 21—Blessid Union of Souls and Allure  
March 28—Toby Keith and Kevin Sharp

### Kansas City

#### THE BEAUMONT

Feb. 18—Spacemonkeys

#### STATION CASINO

March 20—Charlie Daniels Band

### Tulsa

#### MABEE CENTER

Feb. 20—Bryan White and LeAnn Rimes  
March 10—Merle Haggard

### Springfield

#### SHRINE AUDITORIUM

April 24—Audio Adrenaline, Supertones, and Jennifer Knapp, 7:30 p.m.



■ Country music phenomenon LeAnn Rimes hits Tulsa for a show Saturday, Feb. 20 with fellow up-and-comer Bryan White.



## REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### Nurse, author awarded for nursing manual

Karen Fenstermacher, a family nurse practitioner with Freeman Health System, has received the American Journal of Nursing (AJN) Book of the Year Award for her book titled *Practice Guidelines for Family Nurse Practitioners*. The award announcement is featured in the January 1998 issue of the *American Journal of Nursing*.

Fenstermacher's book contains information on common diagnoses and treatments and is designed to be a practical reference guide for nurse practitioners.

In addition to earning the AJN Book of the Year Award, the guide was also the second most popular book in both sales and requests for complimentary copies at a recent conference for Sigma Theta Tau, an international nursing society.

According to Fenstermacher, the book satisfied a strong demand by nurse practitioners for accessible information in a usable format.

Fenstermacher co-authored the book with Toni Hudson, a family nurse practitioner at Ash Grove (Mo.) Family Care Clinic.

Fenstermacher has also written *Dysrhythmia Recognition and Management*, now in its third edition, and co-authored *Quick Reference for Advanced Cardiac Life Support* with Hudson.

Fenstermacher wrote the manual after an extensive time span of both study and experience.

Fenstermacher has 21 years of experience in nursing and the medical field and has been a family nurse practitioner since 1995. □

### Highway, bridges fare well after annual meeting

At its monthly meeting Feb. 4, the Missouri Highway and Transportation Commission (MHTC) awarded \$15.8 million in construction contracts for the uses of grading and bridges on the next section of the roadway on new U.S. Route 71.

The bridge construction contract was awarded to Central Bridge Company of Columbia, Mo.

The grading contract was awarded to Sierra Bravo, Inc., of Sesser, Ill.

This project will extend the new four-lane highway by a distance of approximately eight miles, from U.S. Route 60, near Neosho, to south of Goodman, Mo.

Construction is expected to begin in mid-March to early April.

Grading and bridges are expected to be completed in late 1999, and a construction contract for paving on the roadway will be recognized and awarded at that time.

The new section of road on U.S. Route 71 is expected to be completed in late 2000.

For more information regarding this project, persons should contact transportation project manager Jerry Bradley at (417) 629-3378 or (800) 654-5428. □

### Public hearing to focus on living conditions

A public hearing regarding state plans for independent living programs will be conducted from 3 to 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, March 19 at the Independent Living Center, 2650 E. 32nd St., Suite 102.

Issues to be discussed include improving coordination, cooperation and working relationships among those involved in independent living services, expanding services to minority groups, people not served or not served adequately, and determining appropriate, measurable outcomes for independent living services.

Residents concerned or involved with independent living programs will be given the opportunity to comment on current services.

The hearing will be conducted by the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, part of the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. □

## NIGHT LIFE

# Society offers moxie to the unattached

Valentine's Day anxiety approaches; businesses target single customers

By KIKI COFFMAN  
ASSISTANT EDITOR

If Valentine's Day means staring into a tropical mai tai with nothing but a drink and a pack of Dunhills, there still may be a chance for you.

Some Joplin clubs and organizations aiding singles in their quest for Mr. or Mrs. Right are helping solo citizens find love using money, moxie, and managerial skills to overcome their inhibitions.

At Discovery Institute, educational and social environments are made available to anyone interested in becoming a member.

"We have more than just the singles' club at Discovery," said Steve Bearden, director of the Institute. "Classes are offered on a variety of topics, and anyone can join for the price of the class fee."

"A lot of friendships have been made at Discovery," he added.

Several local radio stations are featuring Radio Date, a singles service highlighting the gift of gab. Radio Date is a more data-based and, perhaps, money-motivated approach to dating.

"Not everyone finds a perfect match," said "Spider Jackson," disc jockey for KSYN-Kissin' at 92.5 FM. "A lot, and I mean a lot, of people have started going out because of the Radio Date service. 'People call up constantly telling me about how lucky they've been and so on. It's really a pretty cool way to meet.'"

Nightclubs and bars, like Roadhouse Ruby's, are the typical hot spots for singles, offering a variety of music, dancing, and socializing. Combined with bright, flashing, multi-colored lights and available men and women, Ruby's draws an assortment of singles when the weekend comes.

"I love Ruby's for meeting new people," said Janice Weaver, a self-employed cosmetologist.

"I have two kids and usually I don't get the chance to go out, but every once in a while I can go out with the girls and have fun," she said.

Weaver said Roadhouse Ruby's was her favorite place to go because of the dancing.

Often the price of a few beers and possibly an early breakfast at Shoney's is all that a single person has to consider as far as fees go when doing the "club thing."

Contemporary in its approach, Preference Video Introductions offers singles confidentiality and the opportunity to see their potential date before an in-person meeting.

Participants make a video at the store location. The video questions to the single are pre-written, are packed with the vital statistics that single people want to know: age, occupation, and views on children and marriage.

"These videos make it easier for people to know if they are really interested," said David Ott, manager of the Joplin branch of Preference Video.

"[The videos] take the pressure off of people who have met enough of the jerks, enough of the crazies out there to know that they want a chance to hear a little of what someone has to say before a date."

Preference boasts of having introduced many present husbands and wives.

Sid Davis, a general contractor, and his wife, Susan, a teacher, met through Ott at Preference.

"Preference is a cut above average," Davis said. "I have nothing but high regard for David [Ott] and Preference," he said.

The quest for love, especially in February, is sometimes a strenuous and trying ordeal. But put a capitalist spin on love, and any American has a shot. □



KIKI COFFMAN/The Chart

Popular night spots, like Roadhouse Ruby's, offer single people a place to meet future valentines.

## JOPLIN BUSINESS



DEBORAH SOLOMAN/The Chart

Greg Hoover, Cassville, checks out the religious section at Books-A-Million, a new bookstore in Joplin. Books, magazines, toys, games and compact discs are among the fare located in the store.

# Store offers reading, coffee

By MARLA HINKLE  
STAFF WRITER

With an enormous selection of books and 3,500 different magazine titles, Books-A-Million lives up to its name as one of the largest bookstores in the country.

"Our discount policy is going to be an aggressive one, because we have a wider selection than most bookstores and lower prices," said Greg Swartz, sales department manager.

Although books are the primary item, it is not all that the store has to offer, he explained.

"We have a large Hallmark Cards section, huge health and cookbook section, computer books, stuffed toys, games and puzzles, and a small selection of compact discs," Swartz said.

"We also have some unique areas like, Kids-A-Million, where children can watch movies while parents shop, Joe Muggs coffee shop and cafe."

The store offers a saving club titled the Millionaire's Club.

In this club, members save 10 percent off practi-

cally everything in the store for a full year. Magazines and bargain books, which many bookstores do not include in their savings plan, are covered, Swartz said.

The store, located at 423 Range Line, opened in late January and will have its grand opening Wednesday through Saturday. Hours are 9 a.m. to 11 p.m. seven days a week.

Books-A-Million was founded in Florence, Ala., about 40 years ago, and is still managed by the grandson of the founder.

For the grand opening, Swartz said there would be many activities planned.

"We will have live music in the cafe, book signings, and for children, there will be live dressed-up cartoon characters," he said.

Assistant store manager Linda Plummer, says Books-A-Million is in the process of contacting the Writer's Guild to find local authors for book signings.

"We already have C.E. Pittman, a local Joplin writer who had the bestseller *Morning Roses*, coming this month," she said. □

## INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE

# Park seeks contracts

Development stalls; commerce beckons

By KIKI COFFMAN  
ASSISTANT EDITOR

In the next 45 days, work will begin on a few small buildings in Joplin's newest industrial park.

In November, Joplin appropriated approximately 600 acres of land. Of that, 470 acres is "easily developable" for the purpose of distribution.

While the Joplin-Webb City and Joplin Southern Industrial Parks are designed for heavy industry, the land for the latest park will be designated for light manufacturing.

But the shovels are poised, maybe for a year, until more of the infrastructure is completed.

"If a big company or a major project indicates interest, then the state will step in to hurry the process along," said Rob O'Brian, president of the Joplin Area Chamber of Commerce.

"Unless we have a major project get involved, I think we still have at least a year to get anything substantial done."

Sewer, water, gas, and roads must be laid out before much construction can occur.

Presently, the city of Joplin is taking bids and contracting out the jobs to handle the variety of tasks that still need to be done on the project.

But until an outside party steps up to bat figures back and forth, it may take a while to see projects reach completion.

The new industrial park area has almost 500 acres ready to sell after the basic infrastructure has been constructed. The area is in a favorable position for industries and could be used for a plethora of business purposes.

If close proximity to Joplin

"I think we still have at least a year to get anything substantial done."

Rob O'Brian  
President,  
Joplin Chamber of  
Commerce

doesn't entice company owners, the park's access to Interstate 44 will perk them up.

The new industrial park area is a hot bed for trade and commerce; catching the heavy flow of traffic travelling on the nationwide roadway.

"The decision to buy the land was based on its location and availability," O'Brian said.

"I-44 is a busy avenue for transportation, and although there isn't much out there now it is an ideal place for business," he said.

Since workers cannot accomplish most of the infrastructure details until the temperatures increase, the city is sitting still.

"Right now, we're just waiting on the winter season to roll along," O'Brian said.

"It just needs to get a little bit warmer and everything will be on its way toward getting construction accomplished."

Meanwhile, minute steps are being taken in developing the area in the park for further construction purposes.

The industrial park is located on East 32nd Street approximately one mile east of the Flying J. It faces Interstate 44. □

## JOPLIN POLICE DEPARTMENT

# Range Line car thefts on the rise; officer gives advice

Unlocked doors, valuables attract criminals, break-ins

By KEVIN COLEMAN  
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Thefts from cars are on the rise in the city of Joplin, according to the Joplin Police Department.

The actual figures haven't been totaled, but vehicle break-ins along Range Line have increased in recent months.

"There have been one or two groups in town using similar types of entry," said Sgt. Ken Kennedy.

"I've been tracking [the thefts], but I

haven't compared it to previous months. But I can tell just by looking that there's an increase. We're looking at various options to try to combat it."

The thieves aren't focusing on any particular makes or models of cars.

They seem to only be interested in what's inside the cars.

"I've seen old cars, new cars, expensive cars, and non-expensive cars," Kennedy said.

"It's just the ones where items are visible, such as a leather coat or a purse, or a quantity of CDs, or a stereo that looks like it would be easy to take out."

The thieves' method of entry to the cars often includes breaking a window.

"If the car door is unlocked, they just open

the door and take what they want," Kennedy said.

"We've noticed that the driver's side window is one of the main ones they've been breaking. Or, if it's a vehicle with a vent window, they'll sometimes break that vent window to get in."

According to Kennedy, most of the thefts have been committed along Range Line, with some increase occurring along Maiden Lane. Security officers at Northpark Mall said they haven't noticed an increase.

"There were a few thefts around Christmas," said Jane Nelson, mall security officer.

"But we don't have a problem with it now. I've heard of more of that happening at Wal-

Mart than here," Nelson explained.

Wal-Mart Super Center, however, said it doesn't have a problem with break-ins since surveillance cameras were installed to watch parking lots.

"There have been some broken windows," said Ken Castleberry, zone manager.

"It looked like kids had been driving by and threw a spark plug and broke the glass."

But nothing has been stolen since we put up cameras and warning signs."

Kennedy said the best way to keep thieves from breaking into an automobile is to leave nothing valuable in the car where it would be visible.

"Don't leave anything laying in the seats," he said. □



## CRIME &amp; PUNISHMENT



Missouri Attorney General Jay Nixon delivers a speech to state police chiefs regarding legislation. AARON DESLATTÉ/The Chart

## State lawmakers propose crackdown

### Law enforcement officers call for criminal law overhaul

By AARON DESLATTÉ  
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

In 1995, Joplin police officer Frank Lundien took the law into his own hands.

On two separate occasions within the span of a year, individuals had attempted to wrestle a weapon away from an arresting officer. But due to a stipulation within the legal system, prosecutors were unable to prove what the defendants would have done with the weapons had they gained possession of them. Both men walked.

In response, Lundien, then an investigator with the Jasper County prosecutor's office, decided to write a bill that would reclassify attempting to remove an officer's weapon as felony assault. Lundien met with area representatives who were in favor of the bill. Then Lundien drove to Jefferson City in order to testify before more representatives as to why the bill was needed.

But the bill failed, primarily because of amendments by House subcommittees.

This year, Lundien is doing the same thing. And he is not alone. A growing number of law enforcement officers are voicing complaints to lawmakers regarding policies that need to be changed or thrown out. The result is a dramatic increase in the amount of proposed legislation addressing the difficulties involved in law enforcement.

"The reason the bills are there is because these problems represent a direct threat to police officers," said Capt. Richard Schurman, acting Joplin police chief. "A lot of those bills are proposed because police officers have voiced problems."

Lundien, who testified before the civil and criminal jurisprudence committee last month, says a growing sentiment among officers is to try to make legislators more aware of these problems.

"When you've got two guys fighting for their lives over a weapon, and then the prosecutor can't prosecute, it doesn't make much sense to me," Lundien said. "It seemed stupid, so I decided to sit down and write a bill about it."

Sen. Marvin Singleton (R-Seneca) is sponsoring three law enforcement bills including Lundien's. Singleton says the legislation should be easier to pass this session.

"Right now you have to prove what the intent of the perpetrator is. It's not a crime until they shoot the officer," he said. "We hope to salvage some of these bills."

In a speech at the Missouri Police Chiefs' Association legislative symposium on Tuesday, Missouri Attorney General Jay Nixon encouraged law enforcement officers to take a more active role in influencing legislation and emphasized the importance of current initiatives.

"We need to look carefully at what we can do from the legislative level to help officers perform their duties," he said to the assembled police chiefs.

Included in the list of legislation Nixon spoke in favor of were bills that would minimize the risk to police officers responding to domestic disturbances and initiatives to better educate children regarding crime and punishment.

"I'm a firm believer that crime is best fought by teaching kids right from wrong at an early age," he said.

But legislators and law enforcement officers agree the greatest criminal threat in Missouri is the manufacture and distribution of methamphetamines.

"That's the No. 1 problem across the state," Schurman said. "A lot of agencies' main goal is to try to bring [meth] under control."

Rep. Craig Hosmer (D-Springfield) is one of many legislators proposing stiffer penalties for meth manufacturing.

Hosmer has also filed a bill that would increase the holding period for some criminals from 20 to 48 hours.

"Missouri is one of the tightest states, as far as holding periods go," Schurman said. "The Supreme Court has said it is not unlawful to hold someone for 48 hours."

Hosmer, who also spoke at the symposium, said that when a meth manufacturer is arrested over a weekend and makes bail before trial, a majority of offenders will resume meth manufacturing in order to pay court costs. He said his legislation was designed to prevent that. □

“When you’ve got two guys fighting for their lives over a weapon, and then the prosecutor can’t prosecute, it doesn’t make much sense to me.”

Frank Lundien  
Joplin police patrol officer



Joplin Police patrol officers make routine traffic stop on 7th Street. Due to several incidents involving struggles over an officer's weapon, legislation has been filed which would reclassify such an occurrence as a felony assault crime under state criminal law. AARON DESLATTÉ/The Chart

## STATE NEWS BRIEFS

### Legislation proposes metropolitan renovations

Missouri's economically distressed communities may soon receive a boost.

Rep. Joan Bray (D-University City) has filed a bill that would create several new incentives for businesses to relocate to distressed communities. High-growth industries that promise well-paying jobs and a high level of capital investment are particularly targeted by the bill.

Cities that would qualify for this program are those whose median household income is less than 70 percent of the median income for the entire metropolitan area. Census blocks located within metropolitan areas would also qualify for the program. Cities in non-metropolitan areas falling below the 70 percent level would also be included.

An income tax credit equal to 25 percent of the income tax paid by the company would be available to certain businesses with 100 or fewer employees located in distressed communities after Jan. 1, 1999.

Companies would also have the option of choosing an income tax credit equal to 25 percent of the amount of money spent for equipment such as computers, research equipment and high-speed telecommunications. They could not receive both credits, however.

These credits would be limited statewide to \$10 million per year, ending in 2004.

This legislation would also authorize individual income tax credits to employees of these businesses equal to 1.5 percent of their gross salary.

Investments in transportation developments, such as airports, bus stops and train depots in distressed areas would earn an income tax credit equal to 50 percent of the money invested in these improvements.

The cap for the Missouri Small Business Investment Tax Credit Program would be increased from \$5 million to \$9 million, and \$4 million would be given as tax credits to small businesses located in distressed communities. □

### PSC approves phone service agreement

The Missouri Public Service Commission has approved an agreement which resolves a complaint filed by the PSC staff against the Ellington Telephone Company.

On Aug. 12, 1997, the PSC staff filed a complaint alleging the telephone company failed to comply with a Commission modernization plan order. The PSC also alleged the telephone company provided multi-party service to certain customers without an approved tariff in place. In addition, the PSC alleged the telephone company discriminated against its single-party service customers by charging them for service while the remaining multi-party customers were receiving service for free.

In 1992, the PSC issued rules on network modernization to improve the quality of the basic telephone service and give customers a broader range of services to choose from, generally promoting economic development and safety.

The agreement approved by the PSC indicates that the Ellington Telephone Company failed to comply with the May 31, 1997, deadline for compliance with the commission's modernization rule. The commission also ordered the telephone company to amend its tariff to remove rates for multi-party service.

The agreement indicates that the Ellington Telephone Company amended its tariff effective May 31, 1997, to remove rates for multi-party line service. □

## ELECTION REFORM

## Secretary of State endorses presidential primary bill

By AARON DESLATTÉ  
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. — Hoping to tip the scales of legislative support, Secretary of State Rebecca Cook endorsed a proposal this week that would establish a presidential preference primary in Missouri.

The bill Cook is supporting, sponsored by Sen. Ronnie DePasco (D-Kansas City), would call for holding a primary in conjunction with the municipal and school elections the first Tuesday after the first Monday in April, beginning in 2000.

Similar bills have been introduced over the last two years, but have failed to become law. Cook says

that by throwing her legislative hat into the ring, the bill will stand a greater chance of passing through the General Assembly.

"Since I came into office, people have been informing me of the need to hold a primary," she said. "It has become clear to me that it would not pass in the legislature unless I got behind a bill."

Cook, which took the question of having a presidential primary to the public during a series of town hall meetings last year, says that while she received a variety of opinions regarding when the primary should be held, the majority of her audiences preferred the April date, which would be more cost effective than having a primary by itself.

"There has been an effort to reduce the number of election dates in Missouri over the last few years, and I think there is strong public sentiment to have a primary in conjunction with the April election that is already scheduled," Cook said. "That saves money, and it increases turnout and interest in the local elections."

Cook said the cost to hold a separate presidential primary would exceed \$2 million.

A one-time primary was held in 1988, but legislation was never passed to make it permanent.

Sen. Marvin Singleton (R-Seneca) is one of several legislators who oppose the bill endorsed by Cook. Singleton says in order for Missouri

to have any input into the presidential race, the primary must be held earlier. He has proposed a bill to the Senate that would establish a March primary.

"I think we ought to have an early emphasis on the caucuses," Singleton said. "I want to get closer to Super Tuesday. It would allow Missouri to have some input before everything is decided, and you would get the opportunity to meet candidates personally."

A second point in DePasco's bill causing some stir among conservatives is an amendment that would allow individuals included on the presidential primary ballot to maintain party nominations for other offices.

Singleton says the amendment is designed to protect incumbent state officials who might "wish to test the waters" of the presidential primary.

"That would protect (U.S. Rep. Richard) Gephardt (D-Mo.), obviously," he said.

Despite her endorsement, Cook says she is uncertain DePasco's bill will have enough support to become law.

"I have good friends who are against it. I don't have a feel how the count will go down," she said. "If they (the General Assembly) are listening to the people of Missouri, they'll vote in favor of the bill." □

## ON-LINE BALLOTING

## Defense Department selects state as Internet voting test site

By AARON DESLATTÉ  
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. — A measure permitting some Missouri citizens living abroad to participate in an Internet voting project will need General Assembly approval this session in order to qualify for the program.

The program, sponsored by the United States

Defense Department, would work in cooperation with the Federal Voting Assistance Program in allowing a small number of military personnel and citizens overseas who would have been eligible to vote absentee in the November general election to transmit their votes over the Internet to local election officials.

One hundred Missouri residents from

Howell and Texas counties living overseas will participate in the project if approved by the Assembly. Florida and Utah will also participate, allowing a total of 150 citizens from the two states to cast their votes.

"I feel all citizens have a patriotic duty to vote, even those away from home and in the service," said Missouri Secretary of State Rebecca Cook at a press conference on Monday. "In

return, I feel it is our patriotic duty in Missouri to respond to the Department of Defense's request of us so that members of our military can fulfill this responsibility of citizenship."

Missouri most likely was chosen for the project over other states because of a voter registration database that soon will be operational within the state, according to Jim Grebing, communications director or the secretary of state. □



## PETS: Different types of animals form large menagerie for Southern students

From Page 1

"Jake doesn't like the cat, and the cat is jealous because the snake gets all the mice," she explained.

"Jake expresses his distaste for the cat by hiding his head."

"Ball Pythons curl up in a ball when threatened; that's where the name comes from," Ensor said. "They are not an aggressive snake. So when the cat comes around he doesn't really curl up tight, he just hides his head."

"Although Jake doesn't really 'play,' he does love to swim in the bathtub."

Ensor warned that snakes require some special care. Because they can spread salmonella, it is important to wash your hands with an anti-bacterial soap after handling them, she said.

"You also can't let the temperature drop below a certain point, because snakes are cold-blooded," she said. "Our snake had respiratory problems, and the vet bill was pretty high."

Ensor wants to get a gecko next. She looks forward to using her exotic pets as teaching aids when she begins her career as an ele-

mentary school teacher.

Courtney Baker, senior elementary education major, also prefers an unusual pet. Her little sweetheart is a pot-bellied pig named Lucy.

"We got her when she was four weeks old, and we bottle-fed her," she said. "When she was little we kept her in the house and she slept in a doll bed."

Now that she is full-grown, Lucy has a pen outside, complete with an igloo-shaped house and a plastic wading pool in the summer.

According to Baker, pigs share

many characteristics with dogs. They can be housebroken, they are affectionate, they are smart, and they love to have their bellies rubbed.

"Pigs don't make any noise, and they don't require as much attention as a dog," she said. "They also don't get mites or lice like dogs do. Contrary to what people believe, pigs are very clean animals."

In spite of their fascination with unusual pets, both Ensor and Baker own dogs as well. It doesn't look like man's best friend has much to worry about in the competition. □

## ENROLLMENT: Program to lure

From Page 1

successful, Skaggs said. While there were approximately 60 in attendance at the Arkansas program, "Southern Preview" is hoping for about 100 students per reception.

"It seemed like the students who attended were very interested," Miller said. "They had valid questions and concerns. It is just another example of the opportunities available here at Missouri Southern."

The cost of the receptions ranges from \$6 to \$7 per person, depending on the city and hotel.

The program will be evaluated to see if it is something the admissions office wants to continue.

"We don't have unlimited recruitment dollars," Skaggs said. "We will have to see who attended and if they enrolled at Southern." □

## MONEY: Electronic filing slowing process for financial aid recipients, causing headaches for office staffers at College

From Page 1

According to Gilbert, students have returned to the financial aid office after not being able to complete their applications online.

"In the past, we have had students bring them in and let us load them," he said.

However, the financial aid office no longer can submit forms electronically for students.

The latest programs are not supported by the office's computers.

"We don't have the computer capability for loading the software," Gilbert said. "They are not in the budget for 1997-1998, but

Dr. (senior vice president John) Tiede assures me that they will be in the budget for 1998-1999."

Until then, students wishing to file electronically will have to do so independently.

"The machines they were going in had Netscape 4," Gilbert said, "so that was the problem."

Gilbert said he had spoken with

the federal official in charge of certification who promised that certification would return quickly.

"They are in the process of finding out what the problem is in Washington, and by March 8, they will have the program certified for Netscape 4.04," he said.

Paul Peitzmeier, Computerland service manager, said it was realistic

to have the testing complete by then.

He said the testing is to give the government a chance to find flaws in the program that might lead to a student's information falling into the wrong hands.

"It is a security issue," Peitzmeier said. "No communication on the Internet is secure."

"I do not trust the Internet with financial information," said Dan Wade, sophomore social science education major. "The paper forms are easier to use."

Gilbert said more than 5,000 of the paper forms are still available in the financial aid office.

At this time, he said it is not critical that students file electronically. □

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## WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

# Western rocks Lady Lions in 81-65 victory



Senior forward Shelly Oliver gets surrounded by Northwest players during Saturday's game in Young Gymnasium. The Lady Bearcats defeated the Lady Lions 85-73.

TIM WILSON/The Chart

By SUSIE FRISBIE  
ASSISTANT EDITOR

A 20-point halftime deficit was too much to overcome as the Lady Lions dropped another conference game, 81-65 to Missouri Western Wednesday night in Young Gymnasium.

Southern falls to 1-12 in the conference and 3-20 overall, while Western maintains second place in the MIAA with a record of 10-3. The Lady Griffons are 20-6 overall.

Southern head coach Amy Townsend believes the loss can be attributed to the Lady Griffons' aggressiveness on both ends of the court. Western shot 55 percent in the first half.

"Our defensive transition, or lack thereof, really hurt us," Townsend said. "They were unstoppable in the first half."

Western head coach Dave Slifer was pleased with the teamwork he saw from all of his players.

"It was good to get the win unselfishly," he said. "We had a lot of assists."

Slifer believes the teamwork ethic in practice paid off.

"Our practices have been really intense," he said. "It was good to get everyone into the first half."

Townsend was pleased that the Lady Lions were able to conquer their problem of slow starts, something that had

plagued them in several recent match ups.

"Tonight was one of the first times we really stepped up when the clock started," she said.

Once again, young players stood out in the second half. Sophomore guard Lyndsey Kenealy and freshman Sara Jones both scored 15 points.

Townsend, however, was less than happy about some aspects of her team's play.

"If you miss a shot — so what — we need to hustle back, and we weren't doing that," she said.

In the future, Townsend hopes to have an equal amount of effort exerted by all players on the court.

"I can probably count on one hand who played all guts out," she said. "We need all 15."

Townsend did see some positive aspects in the loss.

"We're seeing little flashes of good things," she said. "It gives me a good feeling about our future."

One player in particular stands out in Townsend's mind.

"Chara Oldfield has really improved," she said. "I thought she played great basketball for us. She always gives 100 percent."

Oldfield scored 14 points in Wednesday night's game.

"Chara made the right calls," Townsend said. "She was the reason we were able to score."

The Lady Lions continue conference play Saturday as they face Truman State in Young Gymnasium at 1 p.m. □

## By the Numbers

MSSC	28	37	65
MWSC	48	33	81

■ Lyndsey Kenealy 15, Sara Jones 15, Chara Oldfield 14, Mandy Olson 5, Megan Mickey 5

### NEXT UP:

Truman at Southern, 1 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 14

## BASKETBALL FEATURE

## Lions look to post season

### Veteran players lead cast of playoff hopefuls

By JEFF WELLS  
STAFF WRITER

For Coach Robert Corn and his basketball Lions, February has often been the final month of the season. This year is different, however, as Missouri Southern looks forward to March and the MIAA tournament.

"I think the big thing from last year to this year is that we are a more seasoned basketball team," Corn said.

Last season, Corn started three sophomores and a freshman. The team went 9-18 and finished eighth in the conference. This year's squad is 13-9 and sixth in the standings. The top eight teams advance to the post-season tournament.

"This year, Mario Phillips, Matt Olson, Brian Taylor, and the guys who have been here the longest have all improved as basketball players, plus they realize what it takes to compete and realize what it takes to win in this league," he said.

These experienced players making plays at critical moments in games have made a difference for Southern. Corn remembers losing several close games last year while developing these players.

"Anytime that you are in a close game, you have got to make plays," Corn said. "That comes down to being put in that position and

having the confidence that you can make plays. That is a big part of it, and I think that we are playing with a little bit more toughness than what we did because of the experience and ... with more confidence."

"It is a better season this year," said junior forward Brian Taylor.

Corn said Taylor was one of the team's most improved players, contributing off the bench both offensively and defensively.

Taylor also credits experience and the leadership of his teammates.

"Matt Olson and Mario Phillips stepped up there and played like seniors even though they're juniors," he said. "I think they have taken responsibility of the team."

Olson, at 6-foot-9, has teamed up with 6-10 junior Osiris Ricardo to give the Lions twin towers at center.

Corn is optimistic about the post-season tournament and next year.

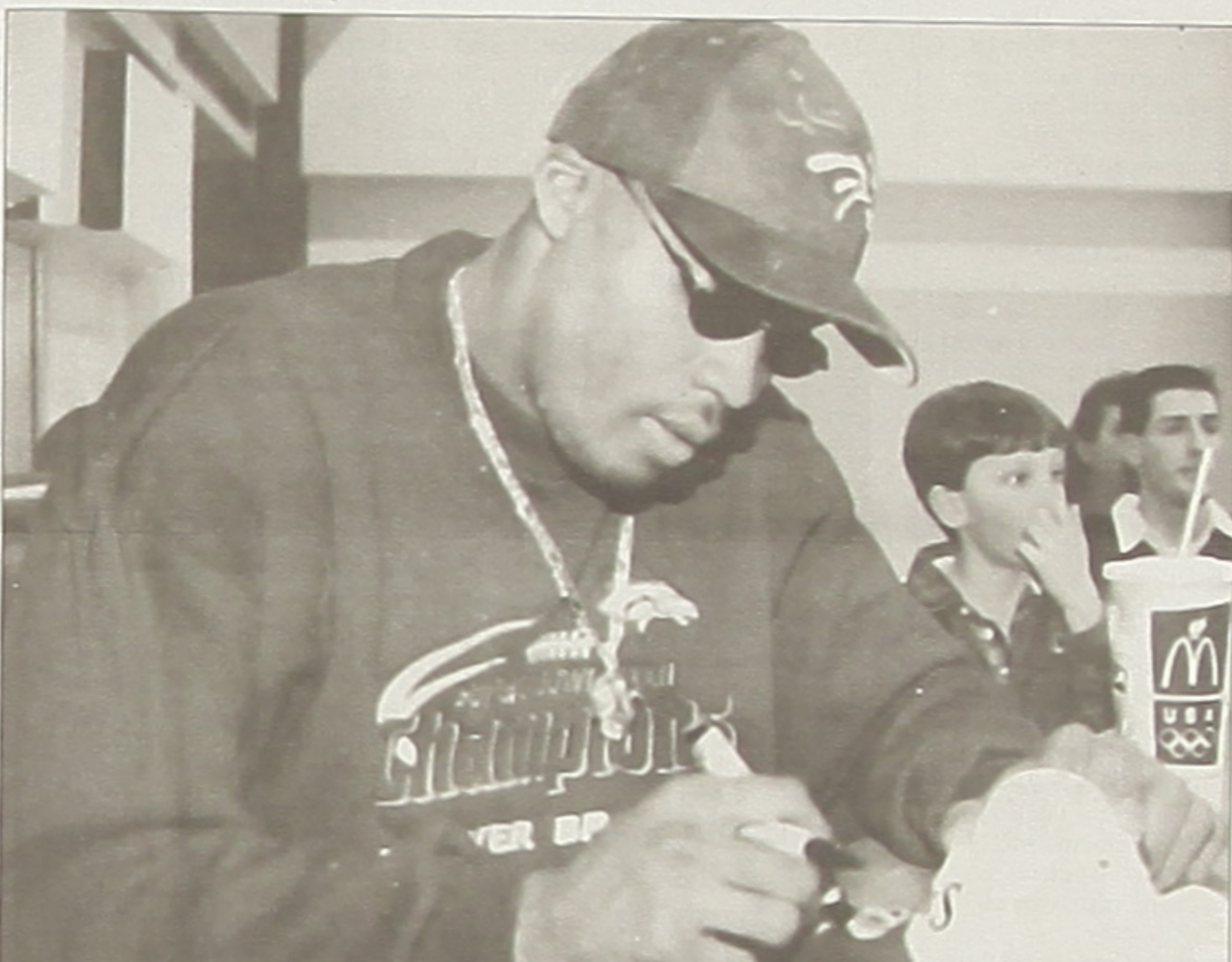
"I think we've made strides this year," he said. "I think we're headed in the right direction."

Terry Mills is the only senior for the Lions. The 6-6 forward has been a solid contributor during his only season at Southern.

Three players were red-shirted this season. The development of these players and the returners will be a key to Southern's future success, Corn said.

"The time from April to October is a crucial time for any basketball player, and that is the time that you have to make yourself a better player." □

## HOMECOMING



TIM WILSON/The Chart

Super Bowl champion and 1997 Southern graduate Rod Smith was at the Northpark Mall Saturday afternoon signing autographs. Smith sponsored the event in order to raise support for the Joplin Boy's and Girl's Club.

## COUNSELING: Lending a hand

From Page 1

More than 100 students utilize the counseling center every year for personal problems, Caldwell said. The majority of those students are women.

"There are always more females than males who come into the counseling office," she said. "It's more accepted in that gender."

Caldwell sees students who are referred by instructors as well.

"That's why we're on campus," Caldwell said. "We're a good buffer for everyone. Faculty shouldn't get too close sometimes."

The length of the counseling depends on the student.

"The student needs to make the decision of how much time they want to invest," Craig said. □

## BASEBALL

## Division I play important to team development

By SUSIE FRISBIE  
ASSISTANT EDITOR

Though the Missouri Southern Lions' baseball season has begun with defeat in their first three games, you won't see any heads hanging on this team.

These losses have all been to the hands of NCAA Division I teams.

Last Saturday and Sunday the Lions lost a pair of games to the University of Oklahoma, as the Sooners defeated the Lions 20-7 on Saturday and 19-7 on Sunday.

Head Coach Warren Turner believes starting the season with Division I teams benefits the Lions when they get into Division II.

"I like being challenged at the front and knowing what we need to do," he said. "It's a lot easier for us then when we play teams our own size."

In Saturday's game senior centerfielder, Stephen Crane was 2-4 with two RBIs and one run scored. Flave Darnell, a junior, added two RBIs off the bench with a hit.

Sunday's game highlighted senior rightfielder R.J. Forth.

"R.J. Forth had a great day against the best pitchers in the country," Turner said. "When we play teams in our division, he'll have a lot of confidence. I think all the guys will because we know we're not going to play against anyone better."

Forth went 3-4 in Sunday's game knocking in four RBIs. He also had the first grand slam of his career.

"I was excited," Forth said of his grand slam. "We got back in the game a little bit, but we just couldn't score enough runs."

Brad Ward, junior designated hitter also played well against the Sooners' tough pitching. He went 3-4 with one RBI in Sunday's game and senior first baseman Brandon Eggleston was 2-2.

Turner believes through these losses his team has gained not only a valuable learning experience but also memories that may last a lifetime.

"Of all the things they will probably remember when they graduate or when they're talking to their daughters and sons, they'll tell you 'I played at OU, or I played against this player in the league,'" Turner said.

Last weekend's games also gave younger players a glimpse of what lies ahead.

"I like being challenged at the front and knowing what we need to do."

Warren Turner  
Head Baseball Coach

"It gave our freshmen new players a chance to see the competition and where they need to improve," Turner said. "We can tell them over and over, but when they see it in a game, seeing is believing."

The Lions trip to Fayetteville on Wednesday ended in similar fashion as the previous games. The Lions fell to the Razorbacks 24-5.

Junior third baseman Derreck Walters was 3-4 with two RBIs and a home run.

The Lions continue their schedule of Division I teams on the road Wednesday against Oral Roberts. □

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After struggling last season while developing young players, Southern head coach Robert



Nick Parker  
Managing Editor

Corn went to the free agent market of college transfers. Looking to add depth and strength to a corps of current Lions, Corn hit the recruiting trail. Enter Terry Mills, senior forward from Rutgers University; Osiris Ricardo, junior center from South Plains Junior College; and Larry Bateman, junior guard from Hutchinson Community College.

At 6-7 (13-10 overall), Southern currently sits in the No. 6 spot in the MIAA, primed for a spot in the post-season conference tourney.

The Lions must win the remainder of their games to have a chance at a home game in the playoffs.

"I think we've shown we can compete with anybody in the league."

A home game or two during the MIAA playoffs is a must if Southern is to have any shot at the MIAA title. En route to the 1993 title, the Lions had two road victories during the tournament.

For Corn, Southern's success boils down to two factors.

■ An experienced, veteran squad.

Last season Corn started three sophomores and a freshman. Now, with upperclassmen, he has the leadership he needs to help his draftees assimilate into the Lion program.

"Mario [Phillips, junior guard], Matt [Olson, junior center], and Brian [Taylor, junior forward] have all been giving us a solid year" Corn said. "Mario has continued to improve and prove that he is one of the better guards in our conference. Terry Mills has been doing some really good things for us. He has shown that he can shoot inside and step out and make the shot. [Osiris] Ricardo has a lot of bright spots; it is important for him to continue blocking shots and getting rebounds. [Larry] Bateman is making good decisions. For us to continue to be successful, it is important for him to get out and pressure the defenses."

■ Playing with confidence.

The experience and attitude portrayed by the Lions has given them a feeling they can compete with any team in the MIAA.

"You have to have that to be successful. When you are put into tight situations you are able to handle it better. The good teams will step up and make the plays in tough situations."

"Right now they are a team that enjoys being around each other. Anytime you have a team that is like that and is successful, it makes for a happy environment."

To finish it out the Lions have to beat Truman State Saturday afternoon at home, then travel to Missouri-Rolla on Wednesday. The final leg of the 1997-98 campaign will be at Pittsburg State Feb. 21. Stay tuned, keep your eyes peeled, Southern may see a little March Madness. □

#### MEN'S BASKETBALL

## Lions lose at home

After playing strong first half, Lions give in to Griffons

By ANDRE SMITH  
STAFF WRITER

One game separated Missouri Western (17-6, 10-3 MIAA) from second-place Pittsburg State in the MIAA standings before Missouri Southern's Wednesday night match up with the Griffons.

Western would sit alone in second place with a win and a Gorilla loss, but Southern tried to spoil those plans. The Griffons, however, prevailed 83-69.

Southern (13-10 overall, 6-7 MIAA) shot 53 percent in the first half to Western's 45 percent led by Matt Olson's 14 points. After leading by eight with less than two minutes to go before the break, the Griffons scored six unanswered points to go into the half only down by two.

"We had them on the ropes for a while," Olson said, "especially at the end of the first half."

"I told the team that we had to come out and play harder," said Griffon head coach Tom Smith. "We needed to penetrate more and get more of our shots to fall."

The Griffons came out looking to improve their 27 percent first half three-point percentage, but missed a three right off the bat. An Allan Brown jumper, layup, and free throws by the Griffons' Jessie James and Traveon Parks tied the game at 42.

With the game deadlocked, Terry Mills put

Southern ahead with an easy layup. Southern saw its 44-42 lead disappear for good when Parks cashed an NBA-range three-pointer ending a near two-minute scoring drought.

Western extended the lead to seven with 13:38 left in the contest with a Mitchell Garr three. Olson answered with two consecutive buckets, including a two-handed slam after Brown's layup sailed over the rim.

The Griffons extended their lead back to nine until Mills tipped in an off-the-mark jumper.

After Garr missed a three the next time down the floor, it began raining three's at Young Gymnasium. Mario Phillips hit a three after grabbing the rebound which was answered quickly by Ronnie Steed.

Brown hit a three of his own and Mills made a jumper which cut the lead to two.

The Griffons ended the game on a 13-2 run and cruised to the 14-point victory.

"We did a poor job executing," head coach Robert Corn said. "They had a couple of run-outs on us, and those are the kinds of things that will break your back."

"We had them right where we wanted them," he said. "They weren't playing with a lot of emotion or confidence. But you don't want to wake a sleeping dog, and we allowed them to get woke up."

The loss drops the Lions below the .500 mark with three conference games left on the schedule. They play their last home game of the season Saturday at 3 p.m. against Truman State University. □

### By the Numbers

MSSC	40	29	69
MWSC	38	45	83

■ Matt Olson 21, Terry Mills 16, Mario Phillips 10, Alan Brown 10, Brian Taylor 6

#### NEXT UP:

Truman at Southern, 3 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 14



Junior center Matt Olson lays the ball in for two during Saturday night's home loss to Northwest Missouri State. The Bearcats squeaked past Southern 78-76.

#### SPORTS FEATURE



Megan Mickey plays a game of one-on-one with her four-year-old son Breckin in Young Gymnasium.

TIM WILSON/The Chart



Megan Mickey (55) is shown blocking out for a rebound during Saturday's game vs. Northwest. Mickey leads the team in rebounds, bringing down 121 for the Lady Lions so far this season.

#### INDOOR TRACK

## Improvement next on agenda for Lion running squad

By JOE ECKHOFF  
STAFF WRITER

After the competition the Lions faced at the University of Kansas last weekend, they knew that certain athletes would have to step it up.

"We faced good competition with KU, Nike Central, and a bunch of junior colleges," said coach Tom Rutledge.

With conference competition coming up in a few weeks, this meet was what the Lions needed.

"It was a long day for us, but we need to get used to it by conference time," Rutledge said.

Leading the way for the Lions were their distance runners, with good times by Dusty Franks and Jon Wilks in the 600-yard run.

One area the Lions didn't perform well in was the sprints.

"The sprinters aren't quite there; hopefully, they will be ready for conference," Rutledge said. "We are steadily progressing; we just need to try to fix the throwers and sprinters."

The Lady Lions were also at the University of Kansas meet.

"It was an outstanding weekend for our distance runners," said coach Patty Vavra. "They came through with great performances."

Leading the way for the Lions was Sonia Eudy in the 5,000-meter run, with a time of 17:50, a school record, which earned her a provisional qualifying mark.

Also having good performances were Amanda Harrison and Jessica Zeidler.

"The whole team showed signs of improvement," Vavra said. One athlete showing signs of improvement is sprinter Heather Hoyle.

"Heather's starting to get back in shape," Vavra said. "She didn't practice in the fall, because she was working in the training room."

With conference competition coming up, the Lady Lions are starting to come around.

"We are right on target where I thought we would be," Vavra said.

This weekend Southern will be at Central Missouri State University. □

## Playing mom

### Lady Lion leads team, home

By ANDRE SMITH  
STAFF WRITER

Not only is Megan Mickey called mom on the court, but she is also called mom at home. Although Megan has not experienced bundles of joy on the court this season, she says that she is grateful to have her own bundle of joy—her four-year-old son Breckin.

"I'm lucky I have my family to go home to and get away from the season," she said.

At the conclusion of a Lady Lions game, Megan said that she could count on a back rub from her son and a foot massage from her husband Jason. Megan said she enjoys the "special treatment" that she receives.

"They are both good about babying me," she said as Breckin gripped her shoulders. "It's like they're in a competition."

As it is for most athletes, soreness is a norm for Megan. Jason recalls one special time.

"After one game we went out with my family and she insisted that she was fine," he said. "But when we got home she was tired and everything ached. I ended up doing about a four hour rub down."

Megan has started every game this season and leads the team in rebounds. She also averages close to nine points per game. She said she hopes the team finishes the season strong and comes back much better next year.

"We will obviously have a better foundation with everyone being here for a year and getting used to the system," she said. "Everyone will play next year with more enthusiasm and drive."

The junior forward is a leader as a wife,

mother, and athlete, but she is not the only one in the family. Jason is a member of the Missouri Southern golf team and Breckin is a Pee-Wee basketball player.

Included in Jason's repertoire of success are conference tournament victories and a consistent placement as a top five player.

Both parents insist that Breckin will be the most successful.

"He practices sports every single day," Megan said. "He doesn't really like toys too much. You can always find him with a basketball, football, or golf club in his hand."

In a recent Pee-Wee game, Breckin scored a game high eight points for his team.

"He's a ball hog," Megan said, joking about her son. "The other kids on his team just sort of stand around and he doesn't. So he does most of the ball handling."

Among Breckin's favorite players are Michael Jordan, Scottie Pippen, and Dennis Rodman. Those were not the first names out of his mouth.

"My mommy is my favorite," he yelled. "And my daddy and big Matt [Olson]."

Both parents said that life gets difficult as student-athletes. Megan, a secondary education major, has a 4.0 grade-point average and Jason, a senior marketing major carries a 3.2.

Since both have busy schedules they have a simple way of doing things in their household.

"Whoever gets home first makes dinner," Megan said. "After dinner, the first thing we do is an activity with Breckin. It usually ends up being the two boys playing football in my living room with glass tables." □